

JPRS 83188

4 April 1983

Near East/South Asia Report

No. 2732

FBIS

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

4 April 1983

NEAR EAST/SOUTH ASIA REPORT

No. 2732

CONTENTS

REGIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMENIAN AFFAIRS

Frenchmen, Armenian Political Groups Condemn ASALA (LE MONDE, 2 Mar 83).....	1
28 February Bomb Incident, by J. M. Durand-Souffland End of Pause, by Laurent Greilsamer Reaction by Other Organizations	
ASALA Blasted for Death of French Citizen (LE MONDE, 2 Mar 83).....	4

ARAB AFRICA

LIBYA

Economic Problems of Regime Summarized (Muraji' Jadallah al'Aqqur; SAWT LIBYA, 18 Nov 82).....	6
General People's Congress Holds Budget Session (BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN DE L'AGENCE JAMAHIRIYA-PRESSE, 16 Feb 83).....	11
Political History, Beliefs of Prominent Opposition Figure Reviewed (AL-INQADH, Nov 82).....	16
New Crises in Water Distribution Condemned (AL-INQADH, Nov 82).....	21

Briefs	
Department Store Losses	23
1982 Ammonia Output	23
New Roads in Ghadamis	23
Ghadamis Electricity Achievements	23
Foreign Relations Committee Meeting	24

ARAB EAST/ISRAEL

ISRAEL

Matti Peled on Talk With Yasir 'Arafat (Matti Peled Interview; LIBERATION, 22-23 Jan 83).....	25
--	----

JORDAN

Industrial Development Bank Expands Lending, Investment Activities (Ghadah al-Fanik; AL-DUSTUR, 20 Feb 83).....	27
---	----

SYRIA

Joint Communique Issued on Cuba's Montane Visit (GRANMA, 15 Jan 83).....	32
---	----

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Afghan Trade Union Delegation Pays Official Visit (Hasan Interview; TRUD, 25 Mar 83).....	37
--	----

INDIA

Developing Country Agriculture Experts Meet in Delhi (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 15 Feb 83).....	39
Indo-Hungarian Business Council Meets in Delhi (PATRIOT, 16 Feb 83).....	41
Press Reports Appointment of Economic Council (THE HINDU, 17 Feb 83, THE STATESMAN, 20 Feb 83).....	43
G. K. Reddy Report, by G. K. Reddy Clarification on Council	

Analyst Notes Reduction in Superpower Presence (G. K. Reddy; THE HINDU, 20 Feb 83).....	45
Analyst Deplores 'Split Personality' in Politics (G. K. Reddy; THE HINDU, 20 Feb 83).....	46
CPI Leader Meets With Gandhi on Akali Extremists (PATRIOT, 17 Feb 83).....	50
CPI Leader Comments on Bangladesh Arrests (PATRIOT, 17 Feb 83).....	51
Reportage on BJP National Executive Meeting (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 14, 15 Feb 83, PATRIOT, 14 Feb 83).....	52
Decisions, Resolutions Noted Party President's Press Conference Differences Over RSS	
CPI, CPI-M Revive Party Liaison Committee (THE STATESMAN, 18 Feb 83).....	56
CPI Leader Meets Press in Chandigarh (PATRIOT, 14 Feb 83).....	57
New Czech Ambassador Comments on Ties With India (PATRIOT, 17 Feb 83).....	59
Karnataka Ministry Expanded; Ministers Take Office (THE HINDU, 17 Feb 83).....	61
Air Force Grounds Dakota, Fairchild Aircraft (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 14 Feb 83).....	62
Briefs	
Indian Antarctica Team	63
Karnataka Ministry Expansion	63
Ambassador to YAR	63
Marxist on Crisis	64
New Oil Discovery	64
New Nepalese Ambassador	64

IRAN

Situation Portrayed by Prime Minister on Occasion of Anniversary (Musavi Interview; JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, 9 Feb 83).....	65
---	----

Bakhtiar Interviewed on Anniversary of Revolution (Shapur Bakhtiar Interview; LETTRE PERSANE, Feb 83).....	70
Velayati Says Outcome of Trip to DPRK, Sri Lanka Was 'Positive' (JOMURI-YE ESLAMI, 10 Feb 83).....	77
PAKISTAN	
Finance Minister Taken to Task for Hiding Devaluation (Editorial; NAWA-I-WAQT, 8 Feb 83).....	79
Pakistan-Niger Relations To Expand (DAWN, 8 Mar 83).....	81
Closer Ties With Kenya Recommended (Editorial; DAWN, 15 Mar 83).....	85
Responsibility for Division of Country Remains Unfixed (Abdul Qadar Hassan; NAWA-I-WAQT, 8 Feb 83).....	87
Nation's Consumer Tendencies Seen as Major Cause of Inflation (Iftikhar Mahmud Gariban; NAWA-I-WAQT, 18 Feb 83).....	90
Political Restrictions Seen as Source of Fun, Facilities for Politicians (Abdul Qadir Hasan; NAWA-I-WAQT, 18 Feb 83).....	93
PNP Leader Criticized for Denial of Ideology of Pakistan (Editorial; NAWA-I-WAQT, 14 Feb 83).....	95
SRI LANKA	
Colombo University Disturbances Reported (SUN, various dates).....	96
No Loans for Boycotting Students, by Manchari Pillai Policemen Sent to University, Aruna Kulatunga Students Take Case to Judiciary, by Lalith Allahakoon	

FRENCHMEN, ARMENIAN POLITICAL GROUPS CONDEMN ASALA

28 February Bomb Incident

Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Mar 83 p 15

[Article by J.M. Durand-Souffland]

[Text] It was about 1530 hours on Monday when a violent explosion shook the small building at 8 Rue Boudreau, in the 9th District of Paris. The three levels, including a mezzanine above the ground floor, were shared by a temporary employees association, a tie shop, the Paris office of the British Legion, and the offices of the Marmara travel agency, which specializes in tours to Turkey. Its director Bertam Gurkai, a 35-year-old Turk, also has a branch in Brussels, and the parent company is in Turkey. There are nine employees in the Paris office of whom four are Turks.

In the Marmara office on the first floor, Mme Renee Morin, 26, single, and having worked as a secretary for 18 months, was killed immediately by the fall of the false ceiling in her office. The windows shattered, slightly injuring four passersby, but the explosive charge, which had been placed on the landing of the first floor and according to the preliminary conclusions of the experts weighed between 500 grams and 1 kilogram, blew the reinforced door of the travel agency off its hinges, broke several partitions and ceilings, and loosened the stairwell, causing several sections of steps to collapse.

Firemen and police were quickly on the scene. The explosion broke the gas line, but by a miracle there was no fire or further explosion. In the cafe that faced the building, two employees of the travel agency, lying prostrate, were unable to speak a word for some time afterward.

The crime squad investigators, including the two "bosses," Jacques Genthial and his assistant Claude Cances, were on the scene but tried in vain to find witnesses. No one had had time to see anything....Jean Perier, the Paris police chief, Joseph Francheschi, secretary of state for public security, and also Henri Jacquemin, chief of the office of the guardian of the seals, were also present but none made any statement.

The firemen cleared the glass that littered the sidewalk and finished breaking the remaining panes that might fall to the sidewalk. This time, the Armenian Secret Army for Liberation (ASALA) had killed a French woman, "whose only

crime," as one neighbor put it, "was to work for a Turkish company." "It is shameful," said one onlooker; "intolerable," said another. An elderly lady said: "We should kick these people out. Let them do their dirty tricks somewhere else and settle their quarrels at home, right?"

End of Pause

Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Mar 83 p 15

[Article by Laurent Greilsamer]

[Text] It was the end of a precarious and puzzling pause. ASALA, the Secret Army for Liberation of Armenia, had decided to resume acts of terrorism on French soil. Its anonymous spokesman, after claiming Monday's murderous attack, announced that there would be "other attacks on Turkish establishments in Paris." ASALA thus confirmed the fears of the French police, who had been expecting a resumption of the ASALA activities for about 2 months. One investigator said: "There had been more and more numerous signals indicating: warning, danger."

Here are the facts. As early as 22 January, an ASALA member, Abraham Tomassian, was arrested in Paris after throwing two attack grenades into a Turkish Airlines company office. Monday, there was a powerful explosion that killed a young woman who was in no way involved in the sad and deep-rooted Turkish-Armenian conflict. The perpetrators of this attack identified themselves as the "Levon Ekmekjian Group," named for an ASALA member who was hanged in Ankara (Turkey) on 29 January after the 7 August 1982 attack at Ankara airport that killed 10 people. However, Turkey is not the only target: ASALA's objective, in assuming responsibility for the wounding and killing, is also France.

ASALA is demanding the release of four Armenians imprisoned in France since September 1981, after the staff of the Turkish consulate in Paris was taken hostage (one killed). ASALA will probably also demand the release of Abraham Tomassian, captured by the mobile police on 22 January after his attack.

Today's new offensive by ASALA can probably be explained by two factors:

The first factor is physical. The Armenian Secret Army, like the PLO, was forced to abandon the Lebanese capital when the Israeli tanks took West Beirut in the summer of 1982. It took ASALA several months to recover. Relocated, according to some observers, to Cyprus and Greece, ASALA is now apparently ready to resume lethal activities;

The second factor--less clear--is ASALA's desire to establish a relationship of strength, to its advantage, with Paris. The Armenian group would like to be able to carry out its operations in France without the risk of arrests and, even more so, sentences. As a more diplomatic approach, ASALA no doubt believed that after the victory of the Left in France the attitude of Paris toward the Armenian cause would be rather favorable.

The unexpected arrest by the French Government in November 1981 of Khatchig Avedissian, alias "Dimitriu Giorgiu," who was immediately released and... caught "in extremis," shows the ambiguity of French policy: respect for the law, while protecting France's short-term interests. "Dimitriu Giorgiu," a member of ASALA, who was arrested on 11 November, carried false Cypriot papers identical to those of the perpetrators of the attack on the Rue Copernic synagogue. He was released on 9 December of the same year. It was a leak to the press that earned "Dimitriu Giorgiu" this short stay in French prisons. In August 1982, another ASALA member, Vicken Tcharkhutian, wanted by the United States, was released and then immediately expelled.

These measures against ASALA were not enough. It still demands release of its "political prisoners" in France. After the brief lull, and a number of threats not carried out, ASALA has resumed the course of combat begun in 1975. Unlike the pattern of Armenian organizations such as France September then the Orly group, the latest attacks have been carried out by men who arrived just previously from other capitals. This has only made police investigation more difficult and delicate.

Reaction by Other Organizations

Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Mar 83 p 15

[Text] The Armenian Revolutionary Federation (FRA) Dashnagsoutioun in a communique condemns "without reservation the reprehensible act Monday 28 February that caused several innocent victims." It added: "By claiming responsibility for this attack, ASALA has once again demonstrated the irresponsibility and inconsistency of its actions. The FRA Dashnagsoutioun appeals to the public not to associate the Armenian cause with these provocations, but rather to support its own action against Turkey's aggression."

The Committee for the Defense of the Armenian Cause (CDCA) condemned "with extreme severity the Paris attack claimed by ASALA in which a young woman was killed." The committee added: "Once again, the irresponsibility of the ASALA leaders has led Armenian militants into an intolerable act of terrorism. The CDCA cannot tolerate having people exploit the Armenian cause to engage in such criminal acts. The CDCA and Armenians do not identify with these inconsistent and absurd methods that claim to be trying to settle our issue."

9920

CSO: 4619/43

ASALA BLASTED FOR DEATH OF FRENCH CITIZEN

Paris LE MONDE in French 2 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] The first victim for 1983 of Armenian terrorism in France fell on Monday 28 February in Paris. Significantly, the victim was not Turkish but French. Renee Morin, who was secretary of the bombed travel agency, was said to have "paid" for the genocide perpetrated in 1915 against the Armenian army in Turkey. The absurdity of this death only makes it more revolting. Even more revolting perhaps was the fact that responsibility was claimed by the Armenian Secret Army for Liberation (ASALA).

There is a strong case for saying that the ASALA killers were not thinking only about avenging the victims of 1915. In fact, what they were doing was beginning a test of strength with the French Government. The stakes in this confrontation are clear: To get the acquiescence of Paris to leave France open to their activities, without a too-zealous police surveillance and pursuit. As a first "gesture" from a socialist government that it had expected to be more "understanding," ASALA demands the release of five of its terrorists who were detained after having been caught redhanded.

Monday's lethal attack ends the pause that had been forced on Armenian terrorism by its evacuation this summer from Beirut. Indeed, there are good reasons for thinking that the core of ASALA, which has never concealed its tactical ties with some Palestinian organizations, left the Lebanese capital at the same time as the Palestinians. This hard core reportedly dispersed in three directions: Nicosia, Tripoli and Athens.

The international ramifications of this terrorism and the discreet support it receives make its elimination even more difficult. However, this is not reason to throw up our hands and rely on some doubtful bargain to end incidents in France, especially since ASALA's real objectives seem aimed not only at Turkish genocide, but appear to derive from an ideological outlook that has nothing in common with democracy.

However, having said this, it is also true that the Western democracies should accompany this struggle against Armenian terrorism with diplomatic action toward Turkey based on another case. Indeed, it is shameful that Ankara continues to deny or to falsify history 68 years after bloodying it. The overwhelming majority of the Armenian community demands only this right from

history. However, it has always encountered a brutal refusal on the part of the Ankara leaders. The weakness of the democracies in not demanding that justice finally be condemned is even more serious since the young generations of Armenians--particularly in France--see it as proof of the cowardice that resulted in the death of many of their people. From that point it is only one step further to involvement in terrorism, or complicity with it, and this is a step that some have already taken. A determined diplomatic effort to correct history must be taken without delay. France would do itself honor by taking the initiative. However, such a step, lest it be called opportunism, must be accompanied by an implacable struggle against terrorism. Also, in carrying out these two parallel and complementary actions there are two pitfalls that must be avoided: both anti-Turkish racism and anti-Armenian racism.

9920

CSO: 4619/42

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF REGIME SUMMARIZED

London SAWT LIBYA in Arabic No 15, 18 Nov 82 pp 16, 17

[Article by Muraji' Jadallah al'Aqquni: "The Economic Crisis, between the Sufferings of the People and the Befuddlement of the Regime"]

[Text] The gas stations are closed.

The doors to shops are shut and stores have no goods.

Long lines of people are waiting in front of the supply commodity markets.

The banks are half closed.

Travel allowances have been reduced from 700 to 300 dinars.

Government employees' allowances for living away from home have dropped from 150 percent to 60 percent.

The provision of return tickets for students on government scholarships abroad has been eliminated.

The regime's debts to the Soviet Union total \$2.2 billion.

The regime's debts to the European market group come to \$1.7 billion.

Commercial firms in Italy, Greece, Spain and Turkey are filing suits against the regime to get it to pay the money it owes them.

Delegations from the regime are trying to market oil and schedule debts in various places.

There are statements by the leaders of the regime on "belt tightening." All this:

And more bitter things than that, the sufferings of our patient people, men, women and children, under the pressure of a severe economic crisis that cannot be believed in an oil country that for 5 years running received \$80 million everytime the sun went down. How did this happen?

we remember an economic report which an economic expert with the UNESCO organization prepared for the Ministry of Planning in Tripoli in December 1977. In it it was stated at that time that the way in which the cash revenues from Libyan oil exports were being spent was producing a negative effect on the economy of that emerging nation. Military spending appeared as an investment the treasury could not endure for a long period, the new projects were not being studied in a realistic, scientific manner that took the needs and abilities of the country into account, and development plans were being set out in a political manner, that is, were being set out politically — that is, they were being set out in a manner that would make political propaganda for the government without being seriously studied from the economic standpoint. This resulted in:

A. An oppressive burdening of the budget with military spending, because the military equipment, as well as being high-priced, required constant burdensome maintenance and operating expenditures, and also required foreign experts whose presence was a burden on the country's service apparatus.

B. Increased reliance on oil revenues to operate new projects which were being established without thorough study, compelling the public treasure constantly to subsidize them so they could survive, as they were incapable of enduring on their own in most cases.

C. Pressure on the service and housing apparatuses in Libya as a result of increasing reliance on foreign manpower, which in turn required additional services, which meant the establishment of new services for the foreign manpower coming in in turn to build further services for the foreign manpower that had to be brought in to carry out development plans that were not realistic or carefully studied — putting the Libyan economy into an unending vicious circle. Thus the country's reliance on oil revenues became greater, making it more sensitive to speculations in the oil market and reductions in demand for this commodity.

This was the summary that this economic expert had made from a comprehensive study which took from May to November 1977. Instead of reviewing this report in a serious manner, al-Qadhafi ordered that the services of the expert be terminated, the Libyan government demanded that UNESCO withdraw the expert, and the regime's media accused him of being a colonialist and an agent. However, in spite of its importance, this report would certainly not have changed the economic policies of al-Qadhafi's regime: this regime, in terms of its makeup and its objectives, was bound to bring the country's economic state to its current crisis.

This regime is a one-man regime based on the protection of the life of this individual, the dictator, and guaranteeing his survival in the seat of power in Tripoli. This is as far as its makeup goes; from the standpoint of objectives, everyone agrees that this is a regime that has emerged to serve the interests of colonial entities in a new manner, in accordance with the new historic stage.

Therefore:

The regime's practices, in the economic field, are embodied in:

1. Neglect of oil resources in the seventies by increased production at high rates that brought inflation and harm to the Libyan economy and indeed also to the condition of the oil reservoirs and fields.
2. The entry into quixotic political struggles and the adoption of positions of intense competitiveness which soured Libya's diplomatic relations with all international parties in the East, the West and even in the third world, consequently causing economic relations with countries and economic bodies to atrophy.
3. Uncalculated spending on political struggles. We all remember Ireland and the Phillippines. Indeed, in many cases, the regime has spent money on both parties of the same struggle, as was the case in Florina's struggle with Tombalbaye and the struggle between the revolutionaries in Eritrea and Haile Maryam's regime. In the last analysis, this spending made the Libyan treasury, and indeed the Libyan citizen bear financial commitments they could not handle.
4. The entry into unsuccessful economic projects, domestically and abroad, for the sake of political propaganda for the regime without serious economic study. The regime built canneries for surplus peach and pear production that were to open in February 1978, but the peach and pear trees had not been planted as of the time this article was written. Indeed, a textile plant was erected in Janzur, but we do not grow cotton. Meanwhile, billions were spent abroad to buy arid islands in the Mediterranean for no purpose except political propaganda.
5. The deprivation of expert leaders for economic organizations, under the slogan "loyalty before competence," replacing those leaders with ignorant, anarchical, nihilistic leaders who belong to committees of various designations.
6. The elimination of economic organization personnel and staffs, who are put in army camps for so-called conscription and recruitment, to be turned into unemployed persons whose living expenses are defrayed by the society, while the economic organizations are turned into structures without effectiveness or expertise.
7. The bad example which the regime has given to employees in the economic sector, so that this sector has become a grazing ground for corrupt persons who have gone rich on bribes and illicit commissions at the expense of the people's livelihood. The stories of the commissions and bribes going to al-Qa'ud, al-Fayturi and others are no secret to anyone.
8. The atmosphere of terror and repression that has made the personnel in the various economic organizations afraid to take initiative and to hide in a time of recession, instead of innovating and building. This has made the effectiveness of the economic agencies, in the field of services and production, regress and indeed disappear in the last 2 years.
9. An onslaught on the private sector and individual installations, without the existence of a viable public sector alternative. This has had a negative effect on the economic structure, indeed has paralyzed some sectors, such as housing, agriculture and small industries, and has turned a number of Libyan businessmen from a state of economic activity to a state of inertia and inactivity.

Therefore:

The economic crisis is only a consequence of the practices the regime has pursued since its earliest days.

In fact, it would have been astonishing had such a crisis not arisen from these practices. However, a question arises:

Has the treasury really run out of petrodollars, or are there still some left?

To answer this question, we must go back to the session of what was called the People's Conference in February 1979, when one person who had been brought into al-Qadhdhafi hall asked about the possibility of building a preparatory school in his village, and al-Qadhdhafi replied that that would be possible if a new tax were imposed that could be levied on people wanting to travel abroad. At that point he asked al-Qadhdhafi, "Where is the oil money?" Al-Qadhdhafi became agitated and said, "The oil money is not allocated for this kind of project — indeed, we use it for other lofty objectives!"

For 8 years, al-Qadhdhafi has been allocating a large portion of the oil income to repression domestically and terrorism abroad. He cannot consider himself in isolation from these billions and cannot imagine existing without repression and terror.

Therefore, he is imposing all deficits in incomes or budget deficits on the people and does not have the expenditures for his repressive or terrorist activities defray any part of them.

It is here that the cries of "tighten your belts" have arisen.

Are the members of intelligence and the terrorist gangs tightening their belts?

The villas of Qarqarish, al-Fuwayhat, Gharghur Farms and al-Hawari, and the brothels of London, Rome and Paris do not say so. Spending in these areas of squalor and degradation is increasing, not dropping off.

Are the men involved in the bribery at the apex of the regime tightening their belts? The banks of Zurich and the numbered accounts do not say so. The presence of these people, with their corruption, is necessary for the regime's survival.

The ones who are tightening their belts, rather, are the honorable Libyan citizens with children who are seeking the necessities of life for them.

The people who stand in front of shops for hours to obtain a kilogram of meat or some bread.

The Libyan mothers who stand in lines to buy some clothes for their children.

The regime reflects the crisis among the public, but in its own wings the spending on its political and security projects is increasing. In spite of our suffering, and the suffering of our fathers, mothers and children, our perseverance remains.

Our perseverance for the sake of tomorrow, the brilliant tomorrow of Libya.

When our children lay the bases for a strong firm economic plan and carefully studied development plans with an abundant payout for the citizens.

Let our slogan these days be:

"Save a barrel of black oil for a white tomorrow, in which we can build a dwelling, a school, a hospital and a free, dignified nation."

11887

CSO: 4504/245

GENERAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS HOLDS BUDGET SESSION

Paris BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN DE L'AGENCE JAMAHIRIYA-PRESSE in French 16 Feb 83
pp 3-9

[Text] The meeting of the people's congresses, people's committees, trade and other unions and professional associations, or General People's Congress, continued its sessions yesterday morning with a reading of the comments submitted by the people's congresses on the fourth paragraph under point one in the agenda, pertaining to the development budget and the administrative budget for the year 1392-93 following the death of the Prophet, or 1983 of the Christian era.

Following the reading of these remarks and observations, the secretary general of the General People's Committee provided a number of further explanations in the course of the morning budget session of the General People's Congress.

He noted that any formulation or draft should take the available potential into account. He said that the article in the development budget for 1982 includes a specific motion by the General People's Committee for Planning, which was the subject of discussion during its second ordinary session on 19/9/82. The General People's Committee for Municipalities discussed it during its recent meeting on 19/12/82. The speaker emphasized that this motion pertains to the development plan for the last 2 years, in explanation of the expenditures made each year, as well as the credit allocated for this or that project covered by contracts and the investment expenditures for the year 1982.

He then reviewed the potential income, stating that the 1981 budget year added heavy financial burdens totaling 5 billion dinars in the form of new contracts signed that year, serving either to increase investments or growth rates. About 2,800,000,000 dinars were spent, representing a growth rate of [illegible] percent.

The year 1982 saw major economic developments and a substantial recession in the oil market, and thus a decline in oil demand due to the constant pressure exerted on oil prices. He recalled that this led to a drop in our oil prices, and in turn to a reduction in our sales as well as our prices, as determined by the OPEC for various African crude oils, despite the fact that we maintained official prices, as we are too small to impose this. Nonetheless, the inequality among the members of the oil exporters' organization was a factor reflected in the price decline which did not exceed 15 percent, to which was

added the substantial decline in exports. This was studied in the discussion of the development budget for 1982.

The speaker added that because of this, the people's congresses at the base level were led to approve the budget for 1982, i.e., a total 13 percent below that for 1981, in the amount of 2,600,000,000 dinars.

He added that despite some difficulties which developed in the course of the 1982 budget year, it was possible to make a certain number of investments, and the growth rate in the productive sectors did reach the planned goals of 6.6 percent for the farm, forestry and fishing sector, 31.4 percent for the processing industries, 16.1 percent for electricity, 11.9 percent for public services, excepting education and health, 7 percent for education and 10.1 percent for the health sector.

The secretary of the General People's Committee noted that all this was achieved above the estimates and the planned rates in the realms of building and construction, this policy having been determined by the people's congresses on the base level.

He explained that "We are beginning the year 1983 with financial commitments resulting from contracts totaling about 6 billion dinars. We are also embarking upon an oil era with disturbances on the world market characterized by a substantial price decline due to an oil situation and a consumer society engendered by the industrial world."

He recalled that what might favor the greatest income would not necessarily be adequate because of the multiple economic and political factors involved in achieving what is under way.

He stressed the importance of a plan for general mobilization with regard to the motion on the development budget for 1983, and he referred to the recommendations, suggestions and figures included in the budget. He noted the activities which should be pursued in view of the motion pertaining to the figures--the least which can be done under the present circumstances.

He recalled that the recent developments on the oil market confirm the continuation of the economic situation in the world in 1983. It would be difficult to achieve a record income figure.

The secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning provided some further explanation on the development budget prospects for 1983. In fact, he confirmed that this budget is regarded as the third phase of the implementation of the five-year 1981-1985 development plan goals.

He said that this budget could cover practically 60 percent of the plan program. This means that a number of projects are in the process of implementation. Some of them will be completed in 1983, not to mention a large percentage of projects the implementation of which began between 1981 and 1983, such as the metallurgical projects.

He added that the credit proposed for the 1983 development budget by the people's committees, the municipalities and the General People's Committees totaled 4,443,000,000 dinars. These sums are the equivalent of those spent in 1981 and 1981 [sic]. The General People's Committee for Planning made an effort to examine these proposals in the light of the income and expenditure rates in the course of preceding years, taking current commitments into account, in order to establish a balance between income and expenditures in accordance with the budget allocated for 1983.

The development budget is regarded as the main tool for making possible the implementation of the goals and the strategies of the plan, taking the achievement of the sectorial and dimensional balance into account. The commitments for the 1983 budget represent a heavy burden upon it, totaling 6,700,000,000 dinars. Taking the time allocated for the project implementation schedules into account, priority was given to projects in progress now. The speaker noted that oil income continues to represent the main source of financing for the development plan budget. This is why he made reference to the situation prevailing on the oil market and the drop in oil prices. In order to achieve the social goals of the plan, i.e., to achieve self-sufficiency in the economic sector, the means of mobilizing income which can contribute to the rate of growth and to economic development and to guaranteeing a budget likely to be compatible with certain projects, while using savings and the surplus profits of production enterprises, were studied. This can be achieved thanks to oil income or to other resources, which would be allocated to supplying the development plan budget for 1983. This would make it possible to cover the costs of a good part of the projects being implemented without contracting for other projects. The minimum sum which should be provided to finance the development plan budget for 1983 would be 2,270,000,000 dinars, not counting the expenditures made last year, which came to 2,100,000,000 dinars. The allocation for a project reserve will come to 287,500,000 dinars. The balance, or 2,082,500,000 dinars will be distributed to the various economic sectors.

The speaker then noted that the preceding budget distribution to the farm, electrical and industrial sectors came to 40 percent of the sums allocated in accordance with the goals of the 1981-85 development plan.

For the construction, communications and maritime transportation sectors, as well as public services, 525 million dinars was allocated, representing a rate of 25.2 percent of budget credit as a whole.

As to the main service sectors, such as education and health, an allocation of 100 million dinars was made, representing 10 percent of the total budget credit. The housing sector was allocated 200 million dinars, or 9.6 percent of the total budget credit.

The secretary of the General People's Committee described the projects and programs in the development plan in terms of this organic structure, pertaining among other things to the production sectors and taking the balance existing among the various projects into account.

The secretary of the General People's Committee for Planning indicated that the implementation of the investment program included in the development budget

will lead to the improvement of productivity and growth in economic and social activities, in accordance with the cement and lime production goals and the increase in the production of such export industries as those producing aluminum and methanol and the products of the Abou Kammache complex, not to mention the commissioning of such new projects as the Al Fatayeh and Szliten Cement Factories and the oil chemical complex, as well as the Ras Nalouf Refinery. In addition, the beginning of production at the plants which have already been completed (1982), such as the carpet manufacturing complex in Bani Walid and the tire factory, should be mentioned.

In the farm sector, a substantial increase is expected in agricultural production, along with an improvement in livestock breeding. The same will be the case with the development of soils and agrarian reform.

Where public services are concerned, the sector will be developed through a citizens' project. It is hoped that this sector will swell the gross domestic product and develop other nonoil economic activities.

While the gross domestic product was 2,600,000,000 dinars in 1980, it came to 4,300,000,000 dinars in 1982, representing an annual rate of 5.5 percent [sic].

This takes the world economic situation into account.

To guarantee the financing of the development plan budget, it would be well to recall the various suggestions which may contribute to finding financing sources or limiting consumption expenditures with a view to the saving of a portion of the income which could be devoted to plan projects. The speaker stated that to achieve this, it will be necessary to continue to avoid further limiting of projects dependent on the 1983 development plan, except for strategic projects, giving priority to the implementation of projects already under way.

He noted the need to organize and support the services of domestic enterprises where the implementation of the projects in the development plan is concerned, with, naturally, the participation of the companies and enterprises taking change of import and distribution operations, and the creation and commissioning of production projects, in particular in the industrial sector where the income comes from these companies, to which can be added the sums allocated by the commercial and specialized banks, all with a view to encouraging the development of the productive sectors according to the preestablished program.

After a short recess, the participants in the congress resumed their work, learning of the decisions of the people's congresses with regard to the fourth paragraph under the first point in the agenda concerning the administrative budget. In this connection, the secretary of the General People's Committee for the treasury provided some explanation of the criteria and the principles according to which the draft administrative budget for 1983 was established.

Among other things, he said that the resources for this budget are not basically taken from oil income, because the people's congresses on the base level insisted during their various sessions on the need to utilize oil income

to bring about economic and social changes, rather than consumer expenditures or administrative management.

The secretary of the General People's Committee for the Treasury also commented that the total of the sums proposed by the people's committees came to 2 billion dinars, although certain of the people's congresses proposed sums exceeding that total.

He added that in 1982, the collection of actual resources totaling 1,200,000,000 dinars was expected, but in practice it proved possible to obtain only 950 million, after which oil income was sought to make up the difference.

Describing the factors which determine resources and expenditures, he explained that the main ones are those having to do with the rate of economic activity, the general economic situation, the oil market and possible direct or indirect resources. In the light of these criteria, the secretary added, we evaluated the resources at a sum less than the proposed amount of 150 million dinars. We must turn to oil income to make up this difference.

The secretary of the General People's Committee for the Treasury stressed the importance of respect for the administrative regulations concerning the limitation of expenditures and workers, above all foreign manpower, without forgetting the decisions pertaining to the import of certain goods such as vehicles and furniture, which represent a heavy burden on the consumption budget.

The congress also heard the remarks of the professional congresses on the administrative budget for 1983.

The participants then took up the fifth paragraph under the first point on the agenda pertaining to the attitude of the Libyan Arab people toward their enemies abroad. In this connection, the affairs secretary of the congresses said that 51 people's congresses on the base level confirmed the statement without amendment, 73 accepted it while making certain modifications to it, and base people's congresses rejected it.

In this connection, the secretary of the Base People's Congress of Sydney, Australia, commented that those who have fled abroad are not the enemies of the Libyan people only, but of all the Arab people, such that their liquidation falls to all Arabs. At approximately 1330 hours the session was adjourned.

157

SO: 4519/152

POLITICAL HISTORY, BELIEFS OF PROMINENT OPPOSITION FIGURE REVIEWED

/Place of Publication Unknown/ AL-INQADH in Arabic No 2, Nov 82 pp 27, 28

/Article: "A Meeting and Conversation with Our Brother 'Abd-al-Salam 'Aylah"

/Text/ Our brother 'Abd-al-Salam 'Aylah was a member of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya delegation to the conference of the Martyr Ahmad Makhluf, the second conference of the General Federation of Libyan Students, United States branch. AL INQADH's correspondent met with him and conveys this interview to our brother readers:

Reasons for the Resignation

Concerning the reasons and motives for his resignation from the position of charge d'affaires in the embassy in India, our brother 'Abd-al-Salam said, "I was prompted to resign by my total belief that coexistence with the regime had become impossible, and, since it is a terrorist regime and the Libyan people are being assassinated domestically and abroad, it was necessary to take a stand and declare it. In addition to that, Dr Muhammad al-Muqaryaf's initiative was a model to emulate, especially as there was a conviction that the things that were going on were contrary to all law and custom and that one should begin exposing the regime with declarations by people."

Concerning the People's Committee

It is well known that al-Qadhdhafi's plan included the "choice" of personnel on whom he received reports regarding their disloyalty. He resorted to the idea of establishing what were known as people's offices to take the place of what are known internationally and in diplomatic usage as embassies. The Libyan embassy in New Delhi was one of those places which al-Qadhdhafi decided was to be afflicted by the plague of the people's offices, so that officials whose loyalty to the regime was in doubt would be compelled to return to Libya and remain within his hearing and eyesight.

Our brother 'Abd-al-Salam 'Aylah was the charge d'affaires in India when the "invasion" of the embassy took place. Of course he surrendered all the affairs of the embassy to the new group and went through the early stages of the experiment, which is said to have damaged relations between India and the Libyan people. The first action this people's committee took was to suspend

financial support for the Indian Moslems with whom Dr Muhammad al-Muqaryaf had managed to establish fruitful relations while he held the post of minister. In addition, the relationship between this committee and the other Arab embassies in India deteriorated. It is not strange that the members of this committee had been selected and sent by al-Qadhdhafi himself, since they came from Libya bringing a piece of paper signed by him to take over the office and the administration of it. If we were to evaluate these persons, we would find that they were not qualified for this sort of job in terms of their linguistic or administrative ability or their behavior as individuals. Their whole concern, since they arrived in India, has been to open accounts in the Tokyo Bank in Frankfurt, to which their salaries are transferred to the sum of 8,000 German marks per person, that is, the equivalent of \$4,000. Their attention has also been devoted solely to buying Toyotas from Japan and owning television and video equipment. Their "revolutionary achievements" which al-Qadhdhafi has been dreaming of completing have amounted to no more than the distribution of the Green Book and government publications. The costs of shipping the newspaper AL-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR from London to India alone came to 800 Libyan dinars, or the equivalent of \$2,400, per week!

Al-Qadhdhafi

Concerning the tyrant, our brother 'Aylah stresses that al-Qadhdhafi's crimes cannot be counted and enumerated. Suffice it for us to say, in brief, that he has totally destroyed Libya. He has destroyed the economic and social structure, has abused the pure religion of Islam and has damaged the reputation of our good people since his name has come to be synonymous with terror, the export of violence, and the stirring up of discord and dissension among friendly and fraternal countries. In addition, this despot has abused the notion of Arab unity and has sought to dominate Africa.

Our brother 'Aylah went on to assert "Al-Qadhdhafi's cards have all been exposed and they fell out of his hand when the whole African continent recently rejected him and refused to have an evil terrorist and a deluded creature of caprice represent it. I salute the stand the noble leaders of Africa, who I consider have stood with the Libyan people regarding his case, have taken by refusing to give al-Qadhdhafi the honor he does not deserve of heading the organization and speaking in the name of the continent."

Regarding the Libyan dictator's position on the Palestinian cause, our brother 'Aylah considered "His former boasting about supporting and backing the Palestinian cause was only empty talk and slander. All al-Qadhdhafi did was a part of a carefully-drawn plan that ended with his blatant abandonment of support for the resistance. His ways and means thereby became exposed, not just to the leaders of the Palestinian resistance but also to all the Palestinian masses. The time has come for the resistance to stand by the Libyan people regarding their cause, because it is the people alone who are in harmony with the resistance in terms of its hopes, aspirations and goals. This appeal is also directed to all Arab and international parties that are still supporting this regime, or are afraid of it and are avoiding its vengefulness:

I appeal to them all to stand alongside the Libyan people because they will soon be the force that has the say and makes the decisions."

The National Conference

Our brother 'Aylah went on, getting to the subject of the first national conference of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya, in which he was elected a representative for the North African office. He stressed, "The holding of the conference has destroyed the barrier of fear and hesitation the despot imposed on our people. The front challenged the terrorist regime by taking the initiative of holding the national conference, which 130 members from various sectors of the Libyan people have attended, meeting and deciding to raise the banner of holy war along a harsh road that will demand unremitting labor and constant sacrifices. In their meeting, the young people in the national conference have resolved to forge Libyan history and enter into the battle of the struggle through the integration program which the National Front for the Salvation of Libya has propounded, expressing the hopes and desires of our patient, persevering people. This conference has carried national action to great heights on the way to the hour of deliverance, with God's permission. The front now has a complete conception of the present and the future, has formed organizational bases for itself domestically and abroad and has thus given a slap in the face of the terrorist regime.

"It is well known that the integration program is a program of holy war and struggle, not a program of government. Al-Qadhdhafi's heavy legacy does not permit us to think of more than ways of doing away with him, giving Libya back its true face and resuming the establishment of constructive relations in the Arab, Islamic, African and international contexts. After that the process of choosing a democratic alternative through all the people will come."

The Student Movement

Our brother 'Abd-al-Salam 'Aylah's features broadened and his voice rose as he asserted that he had the good fortune to attend the two inaugural and concluding sessions of the Conference of the Martyr Ahmad Makhluf, which was held in America last August. He managed to learn at first hand of the enthusiasm filling the spirits of sincere nationalist youths in working to expose the regime, which is collapsing economically, politically, internationally and in terms of popular support: "The conference inspired my personal conviction regarding the noble role which the student sector has long been performing in clashing with tyranny and exposing the tyrants. This important sector must be aware, alert, and cognizant of all the conspiracies that might prevent or obstruct it from continuing on its path."

An Evaluation of the Current Stage

When our brother 'Abd-al-Salam 'Aylah announced his resignation and entry into the ranks of the people in the opposition, the caravan was not as large and rapidly expanding as we now see it, sense it, and observe its repercussions on the actions and decisions of the regime and the speeches and threats of the

tyrant, today. Therefore our brother 'Abd-al-Salam is one of the people who are best able to evaluate the current stage of struggle, which he asserts is an advanced, effective one in view of the domestic, international, African, international and Islamic weight the opposition movement possesses. This imposes a great responsibility on our personnel in the National Front for the Salvation of Libya, which makes it incumbent upon them to work with a resolve which knows no frustration or monotony so that we can reach our goal: "I assert to every noble and fighting person that the regime is on its road to the abyss, that the tyrant has lost all his cards, and that the domestic grumbling has reached its peak."

An Appeal to Diplomats

Perhaps it is well known that declaring the names of people in opposition is something that causes al-Qadhdhafi anxiety, angers him, adds to his fear and lengthens the list of the people whose evil and "counterrevolution" cause him panic. "I call upon all my fellow diplomats to take open positions regarding the regime, and I call upon them to cease to be connected to the regime or pollute their hands and their futures with it. The regime is collapsing, and the adoption of this sort of stand is an honor to those who take it and will accelerate the elimination of the evil gang."

At the end of the meeting, I thanked our brother 'Abd-al-Salam 'Aylah, who rose to shake my hand, as representative of the hands of everyone who took has contributed to AL-INQADH, "which I consider a massive achievement when compared to others; in spite of the errors that every beginning might entail, AL-INQADH is an advanced step in the world of the Libyan opposition press." Our brother 'Abd-al-Salam asked the members of the editorial board to exert further unremitting efforts to highlight the psychological understanding and scientific analysis of the personality of this tyrant, because this media approach alone will make al-Qadhdhafi lose his nerve and will unmask and expose him.

'Abd-al-Salam'Aylah in a Few Lines

He was born in the town of Darnah in 1940

He graduated from Damascus University with a bachelor's degree in administration.

He held a number of positions, the last of which was in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

He is one of the persons who resigned from their diplomatic posts, openly declared themselves and spoke frankly about their opposition to the collapsing regime in Libya.

He rose gradually within the diplomatic corps to the level of charge d'affaires in the Libyan embassy in India, where he resigned his position in the

course of a statement in which he condemned al-Qadhdhafi's conduct toward Libya and its liberal-spirited people. The newspapers and the media reported the news of his resignation as a person who had joined the ranks of the opposition.

He is a member of the Permanent Bureau of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya.

11887

CSO: 4504/240

NEW CRISES IN WATER DISTRIBUTION CONDEMNED

/Place of Publication Unknown/ AL-INQADH in Arabic No 2, Nov 82 p 35

/Article: "Lines for Water"/

/Text/ Last Ramadan, the citizens were afflicted by a new shortage achieved by the revolution: water in central Tripoli and some other sections was shut off for a period of 10 full days. With the steep rises in temperature, which reached abnormal levels, people shouted out in protest and the voices of people giving sermons in the mosques rose on high with the demand that a rapid resolution to the shortage be found and that the people responsible for it be taken to task.

Under this pressure, the distribution of water by trucks started, but this measure covered only small areas of the sections, adding a new type of line, the water line, to the meat lines, the vegetable lines, milk lines, the bread lines, and so on.

As is the custom with the regime with which Libya has become afflicted, the regime of play-acting and fraud, a new farce has been announced, which one could summarize in the television panel that was held with some of the people in charge of the water sector so that responsibility would be laid upon them and they would be made to bear the blame for it. However, during their discussion of the shortage, they stated that the most important reasons for it could be attributed to:

1. The haphazard consumption of groundwater for nonproductive agricultural projects.
2. The failure to operate desalination plants, one of which was erected a number of years ago, and monopolization of the water in the other plant by the textile plant in Janzur, which operates half a day a week, just every Thursday afternoon.
3. The absence of adequate amounts of money to cover the projects required for the drilling of new wells to meet the reserves for the city of Tripoli, whose population comes to more than 1 million.

4. Administrative sloth, as a result of dominance by the people's committees, which has prevented coordination and cooperation among the water departments, the municipalities and the Secretariat of Water, so that the plants could be supplied with power.

At the end of the symposium, Eng Munir Sharmit, who is in charge of the water department in the Municipality of Tripoli, warned the people that this was not a summer shortage but would be permanent and ongoing, especially next winter, for the reasons mentioned.

11887

CSO: 4504/240

BRIEFS

DEPARTMENT STORE LOSSES--The preliminary final accounts that some department stores have made show that their losses in the last fiscal year (1981) came to about 154 million dinars. The strange thing is that the losses reached this point at a time when the level of prices of goods in these stores has not dropped and their level of service or level of supplies of goods have not improved either. /Text/ /Place of Publication Unknown/ AL-INQADH in Arabic No 2, Nov 83 p 35/

1982 AMMONIA OUTPUT--Sources in the National Petrochemical Company have stated that the production of the ammonia plant in Brega last year came to 230,864 metric tons, an increase of 65,864 metric tons over its targeted production. It is worth pointing out that the ammonia plant's output from the time it started operating in 1978 until the end of 1982 totalled 705,000 metric tons of ammonia, which is used in the manufacture of chemical fertilizers that are involved in the fabrication of nitric acid. /Text/ /Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 14 Feb 83 p 3/

NEW ROADS IN GHADAMIS--Sources in the People's Committee for Transportation and Marine Transport have stated that a number of vital roads have been built to link up various areas of the municipality. The 47-kilometer Nalut-Wazin Road has been built to link the town of Ghadamis to the areas of Nalut and the Tunisian border, the 24-kilometer al-Jawsh-al-Harabah road has been constructed, and the 25-kilometer al-Jawsh-Tandmirt-Zayid-Kamlushit road has been built. The sources pointed out that contracts have been made for the construction of a number of new road projects 80 kilometers in length and work on them is underway now. An additional group of roads 283 kilometers in length is also being designed. Construction of the Nalut post office building and a number of other exchanges has been completed, and contracts have been made for the construction of nine new post offices to be apportioned among the various sections of the municipality. /Text/ /Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 15 Feb 83 p 6/

GHADAMIS ELECTRICITY ACHIEVEMENTS--Sources in the People's Committee of Electricity in the municipality of Ghadamis have pointed out that work is underway on the construction of a number of lines in the electrical systems and branches of the municipality are being interconnected; work is underway on construction of the Nalut-Aqlad Mahmud line, 16 kilometers in length, the Tiji-Kabaw line, 18 kilometers in length, the al-Jawsh-Tifi line, 32

kilometers in length. The completion rate on these systems now comes to 80 percent. These sources have stated that in the context of the execution of the cooperation agreement between the municipality of Ghadamis and the Tunisian Province of Tataouine, an electrical line has been set up between the Wazin area of Ghadamis and the Tunisian Delegation of al-Dhahabiyah which is 6 kilometers in length. This line will be opened this year. /Text/
/Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 17 Feb 83 p 4/

FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING--The first meeting of the People's Bureau for Foreign Relations completed its activities in Tripoli yesterday. Participating in it were the secretary and members of the People's Committee of Foreign Relations, the secretaries in the people's committees in the fraternal bureaus and people's bureaus, the secretaries of the jamahiriyyah's missions abroad, and the bureau administrations in the People's Bureau for Foreign Relations. The meeting, which was held under the slogan "Permanent relations are among peoples, not governments," discussed the followup of the execution of the decrees of the Basic People's Conferences in the area of foreign policy, the future plan of action, and the strategy of the people's foreign activity in terms of the actual resources of the people's action movement abroad and the execution of the masses' decrees at the basic people's conferences.
/Text/ /Tripoli AL-FAJR AL-JADID in Arabic 24 Feb 83 p 5/

11687

CSO: 4504/240

MATTI PELED ON TALK WITH YASIR 'ARAFAT

Paris LIBERATION in French 22-23 Jan 83 p 20

[Interview with Israeli Gen Matti Peled after his meeting with Yasir Arafat, by Jerusalem correspondent Michel Snyatin: "Peled: 'The PLO Has Changed, We Have Not'"; date of interview not specified]

[Text] Israeli Gen Matti Peled, hero of the six-day war, who has just met with Yasir Arafat, explains that the PLO has understood it should address itself directly to the Israeli public opinion.

Matti Peled who, together with other militants of movements for peace in Israel (see LIBERATION dated 21 January), has just met with Yasir Arafat is a former deputy of a small leftwing party. A general in the Israeli Army reserve officer corps, he has consistently opposed Begin's and Sharon's policy during the war in Lebanon. In an interview with LIBERATION, he explains why he met with Arafat.

[Question] Israeli officials minimized the importance of your meeting with Mr Yasir Arafat. They say you are a fringe movement, you represent nobody and, besides, you agree with the PLO. Was that meeting an important event?

[Answer] They are right on one point: indeed, we are now in agreement with the PLO. We agree on the creation of a Palestinian state next to the state of Israel and on the recognition of national Palestinian rights. But this has been our program since the creation of the Israeli-Palestinian Council for Peace in 1976. The PLO has changed, we have not.

In addition, whether we are a minority or not is unimportant. What counts is that for the first time the PLO chairman, Mr Yasir Arafat, has had an official meeting with members of an Israeli and Zionist organization. This creates a precedent.

[Question] Had there been no previous contacts between you and the PLO?

[Answer] Since the creation of our Israeli-Palestinian Council for Peace, we have kept in touch with Mr Issam Sartau, Arafat's personal representative. But until now Mr Yasir Arafat had remained in the background, which provided ammunition for those in the PLO who oppose these contacts.

What has changed is that, especially since the war in Lebanon, the Palestinian leadership have become convinced they must address themselves directly to the Israeli public opinion. They have understood that Israel is an open society and that there is ground for a joint political action, as is stated in the joint communique we and they signed.

[Question] Yet, at the same time, the Palestinian resistance is addressing Israeli public opinion through other channels. In the center of Tel Aviv, there was a grenade attack on a bus. Doesn't this put you in a difficult position?

[Answer] No. If you remember, responsibility for the Tel Aviv bus attack was claimed first of all by Abou Nidal's dissident group which is openly at war with the Palestinian leadership. All Palestinian leaders I met with were positive that this attack had been ordered by that rival organization and did not hesitate to criticize the PLO representative in Paris, Mr Ibrahim Souss, for heralding and claiming responsibility for that questionable act.

This being said, we have never said that "the Palestinian military struggle" should stop before a peace settlement is arrived at through negotiation. What is important, and what the other party, including Mr Yasir Arafat, have stated is "that a political solution should prevail." By meeting with us, they laid their cards on the table and it is not a coincidence that this meeting took place precisely at the time when the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which is opposed to Mr Yasir Arafat's present policy, was holding its congress in Libya.

[Question] Are you not afraid of legal action against you in Israel?

[Answer] Since 1976, the Likud party (at the time in the opposition) has been asking for a prohibition of contacts between Israeli and Palestinians. But all Israeli government legal advisers without exception have consistently rejected this interpretation of Israeli laws. They are well aware that we are not undermining state security and that we have broken no law. This was stated again a week ago by the government's legal adviser, Mr Zamir. If we were to be tried, the entire democratic foundation of Israeli society would have to be called into question. This is also what Mr Roni Milo, the Likud deputy, wishes but, in this case, we would not be alone against him.

[Question] Have you discussed with your Palestinian contacts the question of Israeli prisoners held by Palestinian or Syrian forces?

[Answer] No. For another member of the Israeli-Palestinian Council for Peace (see references to Mr Eliav) has been in touch with the PLO for several weeks regarding this question. But he has a mandate of the Israeli government.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK EXPANDS LENDING, INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 20 Feb 83 p 8

[Article by Ghadah al-Fanik: "Ziyad 'Annab, Director General of the Industrial Development Bank"]

[Text] The Industrial Development Bank bears the responsibility for financing the industrial and tourist sectors, arranging and managing their loans, contributing to the capital of development companies, and covering their financial offerings.

In view of the importance of this role in advancing successful industry and tourist activity, I went to Mr. Ziyad 'Annab, who has been the director general of the bank since it was established 18 years ago, and presented my questions to him.

Rapid Growth

AL-DUSTUR: It is to be noted that the Industrial Development Bank grew very slowly during its first years but has started to grow rapidly and expand its activities in recent years. What is your explanation of this phenomenon?

Ziyad 'Annab: The Industrial Development Bank was established in 1965 through the joint efforts of the public and private sectors. The bank started to build itself up gradually in steady strides until it attained the status it has now, that of a specialized lending institution that enjoys a solid base and is taking part in many activities. The bank kept abreast of economic developments in the country and the circumstances it went through, especially the June 1967 war and its aftermath, which had an effect on the volume of its activities though Jordan, in the years following this period, has made large strides in industrial development, industrial investments have expanded and the number of factories has increased. The bank has participated effectively in financing industrial and tourist projects and offering technical advice on numerous projects. The number of loans the bank has given since its establishment comes to 760, worth 52.57 million dinars. What has increased the rate of growth of the bank in recent years, in addition to increased loan opportunities, has been expansion of its activities in a manner in keeping with the demands of economic development in Jordan, by embracing and promoting projects, contributing capital for them, organizing banking consortiums, guaranteeing the issuance of

stocks and bonds, offering financial mediation, training and preferential lending for various areas, financing raw materials for export purposes, offering occupational loans, and so forth.

The Bank's Sources

AL-DUSTUR: What are the bank's sources of funds, the relative importance of each and the price the bank pays for them?

'Annab: In addition to the bank's paid up capital and reserves, which come to 6.2 million dinars, there are foreign loans with government guarantees whose principal comes to 8.1 million dinars. There is another important source, which is the facilities the Central Bank provides as a welcome support for financing the Industrial Development Bank's operations; its ceiling has risen to 7 million dinars. The fourth source to which we have been turning since 1979 is the combined loans to which the commercial banks are contributing. In addition there are the differences in the rates of interest on deposits with the bank. The rate of the cost of borrowing at the bank is about 7 percent.

Acceptance of Deposits

AL-DUSTUR: Why doesn't the bank start to accept deposits from the public and open up current accounts for lenders, in order to facilitate their activities on the one hand and obtain revenues on the other?

'Annab: Up to 1972, the bank was prohibited from accepting deposits, in accordance with the law governing it; this law was then amended by making the acceptance of deposits contingent on approval by its board of directors. The bank as of 1982 started to accept deposits, especially from public organizations such as the Social Insurance Organization, the Retirement Fund and so forth. The bank will seek to attract further deposits.

As regards the opening of current accounts for lenders, the bank does play an effective role in facilitating lenders' work without offering this service. In any case, the commercial banks that exist in the kingdom perform that service in all respects.

Government Participation

AL-DUSTUR: It is well known that the government's capital in the bank comes to 1 million dinars, on which no profits are paid out. Do you believe that that is contrary to the rights of the treasury and that that government subsidy no longer has any justification, now that the bank has grown strong and has started to enjoy excessive revenues?

'Annab: The Jordanian government has graciously subsidized the Industrial Development Bank, and still is doing so, with the goal of developing the course of industry in this country. In addition the government's contribution came to 37 percent of the bank's capital in the form of ordinary stock, when the bank's capital was 3 million dinars; that then constituted 18.5 percent of

of the bank's capital when the bank raised its permitted capital to 6 million dinars. In accordance with the law governing the bank, the ordinary shares the government possesses are entitled to profits if the distribution rate exceeds 10 percent. I would like to state that the government started to receive profits from its share in 1981.

Although industrial banks in developing countries receive contributions from their governments in the form of grants, since industrial banks are founded with the objective of supporting industrial development, the Jordanian government is sparing no efforts, through all its agencies, especially the National Planning Council and the Central Bank, to subsidize the bank's operations so that it may realize its objectives.

The Financial Market

AL-DUSTUR: Last year the bank obtained special rights with respect to mediation in the Amman money market and the provision of cover for stocks and bonds. What have the bank's accomplishments in this field been?

'Annab: In keeping with the bank's goals of encouraging the establishment of industrial and tourist projects, providing necessary financing for them, and developing private sector ownership of the stocks in these projects and the bonds they issue, the bank, at the beginning of 1982, started to engage in the activities of underwriting subscriptions to the stocks and bonds of industrial and tourist corporations. This step has had the effect of supporting projects through the commitment to cover the stocks or bonds they issue and to guarantee their sale, on the one hand, and to help the securities market develop and grow on the other.

As of the beginning of 1982, the bank also started to engage in mediating activities in the Amman financial market, including the governor's department. I would like to mention here that this step did not involve "special rights" obtained by the bank — rather, it was one of the goals that the law on the bank comprises, and our entry into the area of financial mediation means only the attainment of one of its objectives.

In 1982 the bank took part in the activities of guaranteeing the coverage of the shares of two industrial companies, the first being the National Industrial Company for Sanitary Paper Raw Materials Production and the second being the Concrete Building Manufacturing Company. It has also helped guarantee the cover for indebtedness bonds for the Jordanian Cement Factory Company, Ltd, and indebtedness bonds for the Arab Machinery Manufacturing Company.

Combined Loans

AL-DUSTUR: What is the number and value of the combined loans the Industrial Development Bank has arranged, administered or participated in?

'Annab: The Industrial Development Bank started to arrange and administer combined loans in 1978. The bank has the goal, through this step, of providing

and mobilizing local financial sources to finance large industrial and tourist projects by enticing commercial banks and insurance companies to participate in this sort of loan and consequently having them play a more effective role in supporting the industrial development process in the kingdom.

The number of combined bank loans which the bank contributed to and managed totalled 10, valued at 31.5 million dinars.

Industry and Tourism

AL-DUSTUR: How do you view the future of the industrial and tourist sector in the country? Are any problems in store for these two sectors in current and future circumstances?

Annab: I am naturally optimistic about the future of economic development in Jordan, and the growth of the industry and tourist activity sectors is a part of this development process.

For a decade, Jordan has been witnessing growth rates in real income from local production ranging from 8 to 10 percent a year. These figures inspire us to feel confidence in the future of Jordan and its extensive powers. I would like to state that the industry and tourist activity sectors are perhaps facing difficult times, since they are coping with deficiencies in management, their marketing policies, fields, intentions about the type of production and service, and the use of resources available.

The Craftsmen's Fund

AL-DUSTUR: What role is the Craftsmen's Fund playing administratively and financially?

Annab: One of the goals of the Industrial Development Bank is to encourage craftsmen and handicrafts and small industries and to offer them support by providing advice and easy loans. The bank began its activity in the area of loans to craftsmen in 1975. As well as granting loans, the bank issues various publications and brochures related to equipment maintenance, worker safety, bookkeeping, accounting and so forth, and it distributes these to borrowers who are craftsmen. The bank also has distributed 442 fire extinguishers and 451 first aid kits to craftsmen in various areas of the kingdom.

In order for its services to cover all craftsmen in various areas of the kingdom, the bank offers its services to this sector in Irbid and Karak through employees who are located in these two towns during specific days of the week. In addition, 1,013 loans have been given out since this activity started, valued at 2.48 million dinars, for building materials, carpentry work, metal work, automobile maintenance, knitwork, printing, leather products and so forth, for craft projects in the various areas of the kingdom. I would like to point out that the Industrial Development Bank is the only organization that is devoting attention to this sector and that the bank's expertise in dealing with craftsmen has been excellent and has intensified the good performance in this sector.

The bank's experience in this area is to be considered a pioneering, successful one, going by the evaluations of international organizations.

Company Management

AL-DUSTUR: In what companies does the bank own capital and have representatives on the boards of directors? Does the bank in this manner play an effective role in guiding the companies' policies, or does it prefer to settle for the role of a financing source which does not interfere in management?

'Annab: In keeping with the bank's goals of encouraging industrial projects and their development, the bank embraces and promotes industrial and tourist projects, discovers opportunities for them, and participates in their establishment. The bank's activity does not stop at this point, since the bank's representatives on the boards of directors of some companies in which the bank participate, play an effective role and monitor all matters on behalf of these companies' interests. The bank has so far participated in 29 industrial and tourist projects; its participation in these has totalled about 4 million dinars and it has representatives on the boards of 12 of the companies which are in existence.

Seven of these projects are still in the process of being established, and the bank is helping to carry out the necessary studies for them.

The Development Plan

AL-DUSTUR: Do you believe that the 5-year development plan is still valid, or will it need modifications in terms of figures, priorities and volume?

'Annab: Yes, we believe that the 5-year development plan still constitutes the proper framework for the development process. Of course, like any plan, it is necessary to review the changes that have occurred since it was set out or during its execution, so that it may be modified.

11887

CSO: 4404/242

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON CUBA'S MONTANE VISIT

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 15 Jan 83 p 5

[Text] At the invitation of the National Directorate of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party, a Cuban Communist Party [PCC] delegation presided over by Jesus Montane, an alternate member of the Politburo, member of the Secretariat and head of the General Department of Foreign Relations of the Central Committee [CC], visited Syria from 9 to 12 February 1983. The delegation consisted of Alberto Velazco, chief of the North African and Middle Eastern Division of the Ministry of Foreign Relations [MINREX]; and Cuban Ambassador to Syria Lester Rodriguez.

The delegation was granted a special audience with Hafez Al Assad, secretary general of BASP and president of Syria.

During the interview Comrade Jesus Montane extended fraternal greetings from Fidel Castro, first secretary of the CC of the PCC and president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers of Cuba. He had meetings with 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, deputy secretary general of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party National Command; Muhammad Zuhayr Makhraqa, regional undersecretary of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party; Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, member of the National Command and president of the National Council of the Partisans for Peace in Syria; and Faruq Shari, minister of foreign affairs.

The delegation visited the liberated city of al-Qumaytirah where they saw the effects of the premeditated and brutal destruction to which the heroic city was subjected at the hands of the Israeli aggressor forces. At the same time the delegation was able to see some of the economic accomplishments and historic places of Syria.

The delegation had talks with representatives of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party headed by Muhammad Haydar, member of the National Directorate and head of the Foreign Relations Office; Muhammad Abu Sard, a director of the International Relations Office of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party National Command; Sallah Ra'id, director of the American and Western Europe Section of the International Relations Office of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party National Command; and Sayyid al-Din Fatum, Haydar's secretary.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of cordiality, mutual confidence and full understanding with regard to all subjects discussed. Both delegations stressed their great satisfaction with the development of friendly relations and cooperation between their two parties and nations. They reiterated their common wish to continue strengthening and developing these relations for the benefit of their common struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries.

The Cuban delegation expressed its appreciation of the successes accomplished by the Syrian people under the direction of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party and its secretary general, Hafiz al-Assad, and of the progressive socio-economic and cultural changes which have taken place in the country in spite of the constant threats of aggression by the Israelis.

They also reiterated their complete solidarity with their sister Syrian nation in the face of the preparations for a new aggression against it which is supported by the imperialist U.S. Government.

The delegations studied matters of interest to both parties and friendly nations and subjects of mutual interest currently on the international scene. Both parties gave special attention to the grave and tense conditions in the Middle East created by the persistence of the aggressive and expansionist Israeli policy, the most recent example of which is the brutal aggression against Lebanon, the occupation by Israelis of a large portion of Lebanese territory, the threats against Syria and the preparations for aggression against her.

Both parties vigorously condemned the Israeli aggression against Lebanon which was carried out with the support of the United States of America, and similarly condemn the terrorist practices during that aggression which resulted in mass murder, brutal killings with incredible ferocity of Palestinian and Lebanese civilians and the destruction of Lebanese villages and cities. The two parties demand the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the Israeli invasion troops from Lebanon and reaffirm their support of Lebanese independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity.

Both parties salute the heroic resistance by Syrian and Palestinian revolutionary forces and by Lebanese and Palestinian peoples against the savage Israeli aggression.

The representatives of both parties consider that these acts of aggression and terrorist practices, which have been committed and are being committed by Israel with the full and total support of the United States of America, are convincing evidence of its aggressive, fascist nature and are the outcome of the Camp David policy and of the Strategic Cooperation Agreement between the United States and Israel. At the same time they are carried out in implementation of the expansionist policy of the Zionist body and as a reaffirmation of the military and political presence of American imperialism in the Middle East with the aim of liquidating the Palestinian cause, annihilating the Arab National Liberation Movement and striking its important stronghold, Syria, as well as endangering peace and security in the region and the entire world.

Thus, both parties reiterate their full condemnation of the Camp David agreements and their policy of betrayal and all the attempts by imperialism and Zionism to impose this policy on the other Arab nations, as well as the so-called Reagan Plan.

Both delegations also condemned the Israeli decision to annex the occupied Syrian territory of Golan. This action is an illegal act of aggression and expansion. They also condemn all the terrorist activities, and the establishment by the Israelis of settlements, in the occupied Arab territories.

The two delegations again asserted that a just and durable peace in the Middle East can only be achieved through a total withdrawal of the Israelis from all the occupied Arab territories, including Arab Jerusalem, and the restoration of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including the right to return to their homeland and the establishment on their native soil, Palestine, of an independent state under the aegis of the PLO, their only legitimate representative.

After analyzing conditions in Latin America, both delegations condemned the aggressive policy of American imperialism against the peoples of that continent, its shameless interference in the domestic affairs of the countries in the region and its efforts to extend its complete hegemony over the region, through its support to the reactionary regimes in power there. At the same time, they condemn sabotage committed against the countries and peoples of Latin America by Israel, the tool of imperialism and Zionism. They reaffirm their militant solidarity with the just struggle for independence and social progress being waged by the peoples and national liberation movements of that continent.

They agreed that the main dangers to peace in the Central American region are the constant imperialist threats against the revolutionary process in Nicaragua and Grenada and they expressed their solidarity with both governments in their resolute resistance to economic, political and military aggression sponsored by the government of the United States of America.

Both parties saluted the struggle by the Salvadorean people, directed by the FDR-FMLN, against Salvadoran tyranny which is the agent of imperialism in the region.

They also condemn the imperialist attempts to block that revolutionary process and they regarded with satisfaction the proposals of the El Salvador revolutionary movement aimed at seeking a negotiated settlement of the conflict in that country.

Both of the delegations expressed solidarity with the struggle of the Guatemalan people and with the revolutionary changes taking place in Suriname.

They also hailed the democratic process going on in Bolivia and they reaffirmed their solidarity and support for the struggle of the peoples of Chile, Uruguay and Paraguay and they also reaffirmed the right to self-determination of the people of Puerto Rico.

The Syrian representatives expressed a high regard for the achievements of the Cuban people under the direction of the PCC and its First Secretary Fidel Castro in building a socialist society and they condemned the economic blockade and the threats of imperialist military aggression which are designed to drown the Cuban revolutionary process in blood.

The Syrian representatives repeated their support of the just demands of the Cuban people and government for the unconditional return of the Guantanamo Naval Base territory, usurped illegally by the U.S. Government.

Also, they expressed solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of Asia and Africa against imperialism, Zionism and racism, and for peace and national independence. They believe that it is imperative to increase cohesion and solidarity among the forces of progress, liberation and socialism among all the freedom loving peoples of the world in order to unify the efforts aimed at consolidating peace, achieving disarmament and furthering the processes of reduction of tensions and equitable international cooperation.

Both parties denounced the alliance between Zionist-racist Israel and the racist regime of South Africa which in complicity with American imperialism engage in aggressive policies against the progressive African governments and the African liberation movements.

In this context, they rejected the imperialist attempt to link Namibian independence with the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola, and they demanded that the South African Government discontinue its policy of depriving the Namibian people of the right to have their own country.

Along these lines, both parties expressed their recognition of the important role of the socialist community of nations, headed by the friendly Soviet Union, and its help and support in the struggles of the peoples for liberation, national independence and social progress. They reiterated that they support the USSR peace initiatives, all of which help restrain the aggressive American imperialist policy and help reduce the dangers of a devastating nuclear war which is threatening the world.

Both parties appreciate the large, important role which the Nonaligned Nations Movement plays in international politics, and they reiterated their decision to support and develop that movement and to preserve its unity and its anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist and anti-racist objectives.

Both parties hailed the Cuban role in the Nonaligned Nations Movement and especially that of Fidel Castro as its president.

The two delegations expressed their deep gratification over the friendly and cooperative relations between their countries and their parties. They confirmed their mutual willingness to work unceasingly to develop those relations for the benefit of the two friendly parties, peoples and countries. To this effect the signing of the renewal for 1983 and 1984 of the cooperation agreement between the two parties took place.

Damascus, 12 February 1983

9204

CSO: 3248/554

AFGHAN TRADE UNION DELEGATION PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

AU241330 Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian 25 Mar 83 p 4

[Zvetan Iliev interview with Hasan (Sepahi), deputy chairman of the Central Council of Afghanistan Trade Unions, on the occasion of the latter's visit to Bulgaria--exact date and place of interview not given]

[Text] A trade union delegation from the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan paid an official, friendly visit to our country at the beginning of March 1983, at the invitation of the Bulgarian Trade Unions Central Council. A representative of our editorial board met Hasan (Sepahi), who kindly consented to give the following interview:

Question: Comrade Hasan (Sepahi), when was the trade union movement in Afghanistan organized?

Answer: Trade unions were established in our country only as late as following the victory of the April revolution in 1978. During the Amin period, however, their activities were paralyzed. After the sound forces of the People's Democratic Party and the Revolutionary Council came into power on 27 December 1979, the revolution entered a new state of development and the trade unions were restored. It became possible to implement important initiatives in the interest of the working people, thanks to the experience of the trade unions in socialist countries, and above all, thanks to the experience of the trade unions in the USSR.

The first congress of trade unions was held in April 1981, in Kabul. The congress adopted the statute of the trade unions and elected a Central Council. The number of trade union members today amounts to a total of 167,000. They are organized in 1,300 basic organizations within 31 regional councils. The trade unions in Afghanistan are basing themselves on the principles of democratic centralism.

Question: What can you say about the participation of trade unions in building the new society?

Answer: Under the direct leadership of the Trade Union Central Council and the People's Democratic Party the trade unions are playing an important role in our country's life, in defending the revolution and in protecting its

achievements. Throughout the last 2 years we have organized working competition among individual collectives, production and state enterprises. The trade unions are actively participating in the struggle to eliminate illiteracy. Special courses are being organized in order to improve the working people's education.

Within the last 2 years, for the first time in our country, the workers and their children have been given the opportunity of a free vacation. More than 800 people have so far regained their strength in rest homes. Nearly 2,000 children had the opportunity to spend vacations in the Soviet Union.

The trade unions in Afghanistan today are the main initiators in working out a new democratic labor code. The workers' wages have increased by 50 percent. Women are granted 3-months' paid maternity leave.

In most cities we have built comfortable homes for the workers with heating and electric light. The distribution of these housing units took place in the enterprises with the participation of the workers.

Working people in Afghanistan are aware of the essence of revolution and are increasingly rallying around the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, as well as around the trade unions. A total of 12,000 workers are defending and protecting their factories with arms in their hands.

Question: How do you evaluate the development of Bulgarian-Afghan trade union relations?

Answer: The friendship between the Bulgarian and Afghan peoples is based on the principles of proletarian internationalism. It has assumed new dimensions, especially after Babrak Karmal's visit to Bulgaria in 1982.

Trade unions in Afghanistan and Bulgaria are also expanding and intensifying their mutual relation on the basis of the existing traditional friendship between the two peoples. We have every reason to expect that these relations will further develop and strengthen also in the future, as we have agreed here in Sofia with the Bulgarian Trade Unions Central Council.

CSO: 2200/57

DEVELOPING COUNTRY AGRICULTURE EXPERTS MEET IN DELHI

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 15 Feb 83 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, February 14--The Union agriculture minister, Rao Birendera Singh, today underlined the need for a long-term strategy for food and agriculture progress in the developing countries to promote individual and collective self-reliance.

At this "critical juncture" in the North-South and South-South relations, the need for the developing countries to come closer and help each other was much greater than ever before, he said.

He was inaugurating a three-day meeting of the co-ordinating group of experts on agriculture from the developing countries being attended by representatives from 27 nations.

The strategy, Mr Birendra Singh said, should spell out specific areas of South-South co-operation already identified and discussed in various forums in the past.

These related, inter alia, to the provision of food security cover, improvement of forestry, ecology and environment, development of dairy and fisheries, agricultural research, including post-harvest technology, education and training, agrarian reforms and rural development.

Expanded national efforts to achieve self-sufficiency in food through modernisation of agriculture would be the key element of this strategy, he said.

The meeting of the co-ordinating group is in pursuance of the recommendation of New Delhi consultations held a year ago among the developing countries. The experts are expected to draw up a blueprint of a programme for achieving self-reliance, especially in food security through agricultural development.

Mr Birendra Singh said a number of developing countries which were once not only self-sufficient in food but also exporters of it, were now reduced to a position of importers. The countries in this region could not remain "silent spectators" to this trend of deteriorating food situation.

The minister said the main constraint in increasing agricultural production in the developing countries arose from an inadequate scientific, technological and productivity base. The infrastructure in these countries was not strong enough to withstand the vagaries of nature and disasters like flood and drought.

CSO: 4600/1803

INDO-HUNGARIAN BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETS IN DELHI

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 16 Feb 83 p 7

[Text] The Indo-Hungarian Joint Business Council which met in Delhi on Monday has called for immediate steps to strengthen bilateral economic cooperation and expansion of trade between the two countries, besides setting up joint ventures in India as well as in third countries, reports PTI.

The Indian delegation to the meeting was led by the vice-president of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Ashok Jain and the Hungarian side by Dr G. Oblath, chairman of the Indian section of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce.

The FICCI vice-president told the meeting that India's exports to Hungary had stagnated for the last five or six years while imports rose over the same period resulting in an adverse balance of trade for India.

Mr Jain stressed the need for stepping up Indian exports, particularly of non-traditional items, such as hand tools, household electrical goods, leather manufacturers, engineering goods, drugs and chemicals.

Mr Jain said the bilateral trade between the two at present was not commensurate with the opportunities available in India and Hungary and said new areas should be identified to step up trade. India on its part could profitably import from Hungary items like steel products, capital goods and machinery, chemicals, power generation and telecommunication equipment and rolling stock.

Spelling out areas of industrial cooperation between the two countries he referred to machine tools, hospital and medical equipment, power generation and distribution system, software for micro computer and telecommunication instruments for communication in rural areas. The blending of technology from the two countries would also go a long way in successfully competing for projects in third countries, he added.

Speaking on the occasion, leader of the Hungarian delegation Dr G. Oblath said India received a high priority in Hungary's economic and trade relations.

Dr Oblath said the economic policies being pursued in India and his own country offered good possibilities of complementing each other's economics, intensifying bilateral relationship and raising trade turnover.

Dr Oblath suggested that the public relations activity in Hungary of Indian enterprises should be improved as some of the non-traditional Indian exports were less known in Hungary.

Referring to the 20 point programme particularly relating to energy, small and medium scale sector, rural drinking water scheme, construction technology for cheap dwelling houses and rural electrification, Dr Oblath said Hungary could contribute a great deal in realising these objectives.

CSO: 4600/1809

PRESS REPORTS APPOINTMENT OF ECONOMIC COUNCIL

G.K. Reddy Report

Madras THE HINDU in English 17 Feb 83 p 1

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 16.
The well-known economist, Prof. Sukhamoy Chakravarty, has been chosen to head the high-power economic council the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, proposes to set up to advise her on policy matters and suggest changes for stimulating development.

The other members of the council will be Dr. Man Mohan Singh, Governor of the Reserve Bank, Dr. K. N. Raj, Director of the Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, and Dr. A. M. Khusro and Dr. C. H. Hanumantha Rao, who are now members of the Planning Commission.

The council is being appointed initially for two years and the members will be serving on it in their individual capacity without over-stepping on their present official positions, especially in the case of Dr. Man Mohan Singh and the two members of the Planning Commission.

It was officially stated that the council will advise the Prime Minister on such specific issues relating to economic policy and development as are referred to it by Mrs. Gandhi, besides matters that the members themselves might wish to bring to her attention.

The council will take an overview of the economic situation and advise the Government on high policy matters, as and when required, without getting involved in their implementation. It will not also come in the way of the

Planning Commission in determining developmental priorities or allocating resources.

The Jha Commission will continue to advise the Government on tax reform and other matters relating to improvement of economic administration. It will also deal with specific economic issues outside this sphere that are referred to it by the Prime Minister for advisory opinion.

At the administrative level, the Committee of Secretaries of Economic Ministries, headed by the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, Dr. P. C. Alexander, will be responsible for the implementation of the policy decisions taken by the Cabinet. Mr. L. K. Jha is also a frequent participant in the meetings of the Economic Secretaries Committee.

The Prime Minister is also taking steps to improve the quality of the economic administration by shifting some of the Secretaries and Additional Secretaries as a logical follow-up of the recent Cabinet changes. A few of them are likely to be reverted to their States to make way for more promising officers to succeed them.

Deferred: At the political level, the idea of appointing a parallel council to advise the Government on foreign policy and geostrategic issues to take an integrated view of national security problems is being deferred for the present. The reason is that the Government has not

been able to mesh it into the existing policy-making processes in the sphere of defence and foreign relations within the country's constitutional system.

The studies that have been made of the functioning of the National Security Council in the United States and the expert inter-ministerial group headed by the Cabinet Secretary that functions as an integral part of the Prime Minister's office in Britain have not enabled the top functionaries of the government entrusted with this task to evolve a pattern that could fit into the Indian system.

So, for the time being, it has decided to strengthen the core committee that has been dealing with these sensitive matters functioning as an informal advisory group within the

Government. It includes at present Dr. P. C. Alexander, the Cabinet Secretary, Mr. Krishna-swamy Rao Sahib, Mr. G. Parthasarathy, a senior adviser, the Foreign Secretary, Mr. M. K. Rasgotra, the Defence Secretary, Mr. P. K. Kaul, and the adviser on security matters in the Cabinet Secretariat, Mr. R. N. Kao, who coordinates internal and external intelligence.

The advice of the three Service Chiefs is made available to the core group when required for considering together the geopolitical and geostrategic aspects of foreign policy and defence in their international and national contexts. It can also draw on the expertise of those within the Government who are well versed in various aspects of the country's external affairs and security problems.

Clarification on Council

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 20 Feb 83 p 12

[Text] New Delhi, Feb 19--The five-member high-powered economic advisory council constituted by Mrs Gandhi recently would in no way substitute the work or affect the operation of other institutions, it was clarified here today.

The council headed by the former Planning Commission member, Mr Sukhomoy Chakravarty, will report directly to Mrs Gandhi, the Prime Minister's office explained today. It was stated that the functions of the council had nothing to do with those of the Planning Commission nor would it come in conflict with the Commission for reforms of economic administration.

The council, with a two-year term, will study the economic implications of decisions taken and work out policy options. At the same time, it was said that the council scheduled to hold its first meeting shortly though no date has yet been fixed, would "not act in a limbo." All experts would be available to them.

There was no reason to believe that there would be unanimity among the five economists on the advisory council. Nor were they expected to submit one report on their views and suggestions for the Government's consideration.

Asked about the terms of reference of the council, it was pointed out that Mrs Gandhi would refer to them certain subjects. "Nothing prevents the five economists to give suggestions individually or collectively," it was stated.

Asked if there was any significance to the setting up of this council with the presentation of General Budget barely 10 days away, the Prime Minister's office replied: "It has nothing to do with the Budget preparation."

CSO: 4600/1311

ANALYST NOTES REDUCTION IN SUPERPOWER PRESENCE

Madras THE HINDU in English 20 Feb 83 p 1

[Article by G. K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 19.

An interesting development even as the seventh non-aligned summit is due in Delhi next month has been a significant reduction of the American and Soviet naval presence in the Indian Ocean, no matter what the strategic reason for it.

After the U.S. has pulled out the bulk of its naval task force which at one stage consisted of as many as 32 warships led by two nuclear-powered aircraft carriers with support formations, the Soviet Union also has curtailed its Indian Ocean fleet to the bare minimum for its own reasons.

The U.S. is now concentrating on developing shore facilities in the littoral and hinterland countries skirting the Indian Ocean, while expanding the Diego Garcia base in the mid-ocean. It is developing the necessary capacity to move in from the Pacific a formidable naval fleet headed by at least two aircraft carriers with nuclear weapons within a fortnight in the event of a crisis calling for American military intervention.

The U.S. has also set up a separate command for its Rapid Deployment Force with a capability for deploying 100,000 men in two weeks and 300,000 within a month with the participation of some of the regional States. Apart from acquiring transit rights through North Africa and Western Europe, it is working on a five-year plan for the development of the available air facilities in Egypt, Oman, Kenya, Somalia, Australia, Thailand and the Philippines at a cost of \$2 billions.

Abandoned facilities: The Soviet Union which has similar facilities in Aden, Massawa and Asaab in the Arabian Sea and Red Sea regions, is concentrating on the development of the abandoned American

installations at Cam Ran Bay in Vietnam to support a sizeable flotilla that could be moved into the Indian Ocean at short notice. Though it cannot compete with the U.S. in a naval build-up in the Indian Ocean, the Soviet Union is in a position to off-set the tactical advantage of the American fleet with its formidable land forces that can roll down to the areas of conflict in the event of a major confrontation.

But what is important from the point of view of the non-aligned littoral and hinterland States skirting the Indian Ocean is that the two super powers, in pursuit of their new strategies aimed at countering each other's tactical advantages, see no great advantage in maintaining, more or less on a permanent basis, large naval fleets in the Indian Ocean. The accent now is on acquiring and developing facilities for quick reinforcement, in the event of a crisis, to the flash-points of potential conflict rather than spreading the available ships, aircraft and men thinly over a vast ocean zone.

No bad development: The leaders of the non-aligned movement who have been following closely these changes in the strategic thinking of the U.S. and the Soviet Union feel that, though the threat of a super power confrontation in the area remains as before, the very fact that they no longer feel impelled to keep large naval task forces in the area is not a bad development.

But the Indian Ocean community has to remain on the alert against the bigger dangers of the new technological advances of the weapons systems rendering the presence of large American and Soviet fleets in the area strategically unnecessary, so long as local base facilities are available to the two super powers for quick reinforcement of their forces. And this aspect is going to receive due attention during the summit discussions on Indian Ocean.

CSO: 4600/1821

ANALYST DEPLORES 'SPLIT PERSONALITY' IN POLITICS

Madras THE HINDU in English 20 Feb 83 p 2

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text] In the merry-go-round of Delhi, the show goes on inexorably as in a vaudeville with its frequent flashes of high drama and low comedy, oscillating remorselessly from the sublime to the ridiculous, infuriating or regaling the audience. There is no hard core to much of what goes on here, although a lot keeps on happening all the time with an almost kaleidoscopic effect. The key personalities as well as the supporting cast involved in this burlesque are often bored beyond words, despite the power and patronage that go with their rolls, because they do so little that is of any consequence to the welfare of the nation.

The prologue to their daily exhortations to the people for more and more sacrifices is often as uneventful as the epilogue to their apologia for poor performance. Their abounding faith in themselves is sustained by the firm belief that in the final analysis God helps those who help themselves, that there is no substitute for self-help in a permissive society, no matter what the degree of public disillusionment. The atmosphere of expectation is sought to be sustained while the going is still good with frequent instalments of Cabinet changes, periodic replacements of Chief Ministers and promises of better days ahead with an odd assortment of administrative measures.

Lax Dispensation

It is a depressing scenario for any developing society burdened with a heavy back-log of problems, much more so in the case of a country of India's size and complexity with all its agonising dilemmas and perplexing predilections. As a nation in a flux trying to catch up with the lost opportunities before it falls far behind again, India can ill-afford the luxury of a lax political dispensation that seeks to perpetuate itself by manipulating rather than influencing public opinion.

An electoral reverse in a more normal atmosphere has a salutary impact on the ruling elite, but in Indian conditions it is more often looked upon by those in power as an insidious attempt to oust them before they have fulfilled their promises to the people.

The nation suffers from a sort of split personality that is partly a hang-over from its hoary past. It comes in the way of maintaining a credible distinction between myth and reality, between permissiveness and rectitude, not to speak of a demanding public opinion bent on exacting better standards of political conduct from those governing them.

The public reaction can be so variable that the very voters who pull down a dissolute politician give in to feelings of remorse over his humiliation, especially when they realise to their dismay that the one who displaced him by becoming the beneficiary of their wrath is no paragon of virtue, since he also belongs to the same breed of men.

A sudden climax, followed by an equally abrupt anti-climax, in Indian politics is only a sad reflection of the split personality of the people who let their emotions swing frequently from one extreme to the other in the absence of a clearer sense of purpose in public life. The ability of the electorate to punish an erring party or politician has not led to the stabilisation of the country's democracy due to its propensity to lurch back at the slightest provocation. The political fortunes and misfortunes of Mrs Indira Gandhi have been an index of the vagaries of this phenomenon.

But the sad part of it is that the split personality of the Indian people extends to the non-political sphere where greater damage is done by resort to double standards in judging the conduct of individuals or institutions. The two Houses of Parliament spent an entire session at one time in probing the improper conduct of a member who had misused his position to secure some minor licences for his benefactors with his ill-gotten gains not amounting to even Rs 1,00,000.

But those who have been accused of infractions involving crores of rupees manage to get away because they have powerful friends to protect them. There is no evidence of any public outrage over such instances because the people by and large tend to reconcile themselves to such things with a feeling of resignation as though nothing can be done to set things right.

Attitude to Violence

The Indian attitude to violence also reflects such in-built contradictions. The current attempts to glamourise the depredations of the dacoits operating from the Chambal Ravines is one such example. There used to be a great clamour for all-out action against them, so much so that the public in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh did not bother when it was brought to light that the so-called encounters between the police and dacoits were in fact cold-blooded murders committed by the custodians of law to liquidate them on the spot when they surrendered or were captured during the anti-dacoity operations on which crores of rupees have been spent.

The outcry against these police killings raised by upholders of civil liberties failed to stir the public conscience, because the people by and large wanted to see an end to the reign of terror left loose by the dacoits in pursuit of personal vendetta, caste feuds and lust for loot.

But again the pendulum swung to the other extreme with the very people who were demanding deterrent punishment now overflowing with compassion. The dreaded dacoit queen of the Chambal ravines, Phoolan Devi, who has committed at least a hundred murders, is being romanticised as though she was a sort of Robinhood fighting against social injustice.

The assumption that a despicable crime becomes less and less despicable to the point of ceasing altogether to be a crime in the normal course, if only the perpetrator is able to proffer the alibi that he or she was infuriated by political inequities or social injustices into committing the crime is a dangerous doctrine that cuts across the very concept of the rule of law.

A similar argument has been used from time to time to condone political murders or justify insurgencies in terms of a class struggle to the point of exonerating those guilty of such offences. An injustice cannot be redressed through a much bigger act of injustice, nor can a short-cut be established to an ultrasocialist utopia by liquidating those blocking the way to heaven. The politicians and police officers who have been negotiating with the dacoits for surrender with promises of lenient treatment have been doing irreparable harm by providing indirect encouragement to the political malcontents that they also could get away with their acts of violence by giving an ideological angle to them.

The Indian people with their traditions of non-violence have treated ahimsa as part of their religious faith transcending political or social considerations. The Mahatma crusaded all through his life against the cult of violence whatever the political provocations or socio-economic compulsions for it.

But one cannot shut one's eyes to the ugly reality that the very people who would not like to hurt even a fly in the normal course indulge in savage behaviour at times. The post-partition carnage was only a staggering manifestation of a deeper malaise that erupts frequently in the shape of communal or linguistic disturbances, taking a heavy toll of innocent lives.

Painful Example

The appalling wave of violence in Assam is only a painful example of what could happen elsewhere if public opinion does not assert itself strongly against violence. It is an inter-related syndrome that manifests itself in several malignant forms, ranging from political murders and dacoities to communal clashes and language riots. A mutiny, like an insurgency, can also be explained away as a symptom of serious social ferment which compels the aggrieved to take the law into their hands when legitimate grievances are not redressed by the Government.

What is dangerous is that the people get conditioned by the psychology of tolerance into sympathising more with the plight of the perpetrator of a serious crime than the victim of it. One can make out a good case for abolishing capital punishment without making murderers look like social

reformers and their victims appear like symbols of decadent feudalism or contemporary hedonism. It would be fatal in the long run to equate unwittingly violence with politics or killings with redress of social grievances even in moments of misplaced generosity to let a terrorist or a dacoit get back into the mainstream without facing the consequences of their actions.

The Government itself has started having second thoughts on the wisdom of its policy of bargaining with the dacoits for their surrender after the Phoolan Devi episode. The intrepid woman succeeded in getting in writing an acceptance from the Madhya Pradesh Government of all the conditions she stipulated and sprang a surprise by disclosing them at an impromptu press conference after laying down her rifle at the Chief Minister's feet. And it is astonishing how the public has accepted what in effect amounted to a surrender of the Madhya Pradesh police to Phoolan Devi and her gang rather than the other way round, since the dacoit queen was able to extract much better terms than the Government.

CSO: 4600/1821

CPI LEADER MEETS WITH GANDHI ON AKALI EXTREMISTS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 17 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] A high-level CPI delegation led by party general secretary C. Rajeswara Rao met Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on Wednesday and underscored the need to do everything possible to isolate the Akali extremists in Punjab.

Mr Rao, who has just returned from a tour of Punjab, had sought the meeting with Mrs Gandhi in order to present an account of the activities of these extremists who were not only trying to create confusion among the peasants but were also busy collecting arms.

Mr Rao and CPI Central Secretariat member N.K. Krishnan, who accompanied him, pointed out that since the country's unity was at stake, patriotic forces must be brought together to isolate the extremists.

They urged the Government to revoke certain anti-peasant measures taken by the State administration like enhancement of the power rates and reduction in the cotton purchase prices. The extremists were exploiting these to the detriment of national unity, they said.

Mrs Gandhi assured the delegation that steps would be taken to ensure such isolation of the extremists.

The meeting was the first Prime Minister had with the CPI general secretary in the last two years.

Two other CPI leaders present at the meeting were the party's leader in the Rajya Sabha Yogendra Sharma and secretariat member M. Farooqi.

CSO: 4600/1813

CPI LEADER COMMENTS ON BANGLADESH ARRESTS

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 17 Feb 83 p 7

[Text] CPI National Council Secretary N.K. Krishnan has condemned the arrest of over 30 political leaders and a larger number of political workers as well as students in Bangladesh and demanded their immediate release.

In a statement on Wednesday, the CPI leader expressed his party's full solidarity with the legitimate demands of the democratic movement in Bangladesh and assailed the Ershad Government for attempting to stop observance of Martyrs' Day on 21 February in the name of Islamising the commemoration. This was the root cause of the present crisis, he said.

He highlighted that this move had deeply hurt the national sentiments of the Bangladesh public since 21 February was being marked as a day to honour those heroes who had laid their lives during the 1952 language movement in the then East Pakistan.

"Unable to solve the burning economic problems of the country or to safeguard the law and order situation which is deteriorating very sharply, the Ershad military dictatorship is now trying diversionary tactics in the name of "Islamisation," he observed.

Mr Krishnan charged the military rulers with having "let loose a reign of wanton terror and repression" to suppress the peaceful mass campaign spearheaded by the Bangladesh students for withdrawal of military rule, restoration of democracy and educational reform.

Noting that this movement had demonstrated the military rulers' "total isolation," he said the Dhaka University students had become the special target of the Ershad Government in the present circumstances.

Among those arrested of late are noted public figures including Awami League President Mrs Hasina Wajed, Communist Party of Bangladesh general secretary Mohammed Farhad and former Foreign Minister Dr Kamal Hussein.

CSO: 4600/1813

REPORTAGE ON BJP NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING

Decisions, Resolutions Noted

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 14 Feb 83 p 9

[Text] Jaipur, February 13--The two-day deliberations of the national executive of the Bharatiya Janata Party concluded here today with a decision to project a more secular image of the party.

The national executive adopted a resolution calling upon every member of the BJP to strive to the best of his ability to curb the menace of communalism.

It expressed serious concern over the growing communal and caste tensions in different parts of the country, often leading to violence.

The executive accused the Congress (I) of frightening and blackmailing large sections of minorities into its camp all these years. "Its proclaimed secularism is only a smokescreen that conceals diabolical and deep-seated communalism and caste exploitation," the resolution alleged.

It also alleged that the long and almost uninterrupted Congress rule had "miserably failed" to establish peace and harmony among diverse elements of the country's population, leaving the nation divided and weak.

"Bearing this in mind," the resolution said, "promotion of communal and social cohesion and harmony and protection of the weaker sections are to a member of the BJP an article of faith."

The executive, after a detailed discussion on the recent communal riots in the country, called upon its members to keep a watchful eye on every tension building up, taking immediate and appropriate steps to defuse the tension and plunge courageously into the defence of the life and property of innocent people.

Charge Denied

Earlier, the BJP national executive held the election commission "guilty" of grave dereliction of its constitutional obligations by its decision to go through the electoral process in Assam despite its admission that conditions there were not ideal for holding free elections.

It urged the elections commission to countermand the elections as it did in the Garhwal Lok Sabha constituency "under much less compelling circumstances."

The consensus at the executive meeting was that the government and Parliament must be left to take care of the so-called constitutional vacuum.

In a resolution adopted here today, the BJP once again denied the ruling party's charge that the opposition parties were not willing to co-operate with the government to amend the constitution so as to enable a postponement of the elections.

The executive reiterated its offer and urged the government to abandon the "disastrous course" it was pursuing and, instead, proceed to amend the constitution and extend President's rule in Assam for another year.

A mass deputation of BJP workers, led by its general secretary Mr L.K. Advani, will march to the office of the election commission in Delhi tomorrow to "highlight" the folly of holding elections in strife-torn Assam.

Party President's Press Conference

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 14 Feb 83 p 4

[Text] Jaipur, Feb 13--The national executive of the Bharatiya Janata Party has cleverly decided not to adopt a resolution on the Akali issue and kept its options open by giving a free hand to its State units.

Party president Atal Behari Vajpayee was put to an uncomfortable position at a press conference here today when asked to reveal the decision of the national executive on the Punjab issue. Newsmen insisted to know whether the executive wanted a review of the Ravi-Beas issue.

The BJP president said "the executive heard the leaders of various States and decided not to adopt a formal resolution."

According to sources, the State leaders failed to reach a consensus on the issue and wanted a free hand.

The State units were directed to safeguard the interests of their respective States, Mr Vajpayee said.

He expressed his happiness over what he called a change in the stand of the Akalis. This time the Akalis were not insisting on the Anandpur Sahib resolution and had given up their previous demand of a Sikh State and the portions of the resolution that were separatist in character.

At one stage, leader of the Opposition in the Rajasthan Assembly Bhairon Singh Shekhawat was summoned by Mr Vajpayee to tell his stand on the Ravi-Beas issue. Mr Shekhawat said he wanted the 1981 agreement on the distribution of the waters of the Ravi and Beas to be scrapped.

It is significant to recall that a few days back Mr Shekhawat was reported to have supported the stand of Chief Minister S.C. Mathur opposing the reopening of the 1981 agreement. An official handout was issued and reported to this effect which Mr Shekhawat did not contradict. Today he said he did not contradict it to avoid a controversy.

Mr Vajpayee denied that there was a rift in his party.

Mr Vajpayee said by tendering his resignation after the party defeat in "Delhi polls he had intended to simply affirm the concept of accountability."

"My resignation was described as evidence of some grave crisis in the party of a power struggle going on between the RSS faction and the non-RSS faction, or between liberal and the hardliners." He said "the party was singularly free from this malady of factionalism."

Caste Conflicts

Mr Vajpayee said communal and caste tensions would further increase after the elections in Assam are over.

Asked for reasons why, he said: "Because of the policies of the Congress-I."

Mr Vajpayee declared that those political parties which were boycotted the elections would have no truck with the "illegal" State Government which may be formed later.

Earlier, the executive adopted a resolution "reiterating its offer to assist the Government in amending the Constitution for postponing the Assam elections" and urged it to "abandon the disastrous course it is pursuing and instead proceed to extend President's Rule."

A separate resolution was passed "on communal harmony and social cohesion" which called upon the party members to "take immediate and appropriate steps to defuse the tension and neutralise the situation, plunge courageously into the defence of the life and property of the innocent people and make utmost sacrifice to this end."

Differences Over RSS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 15 Feb 83 p 9

[Text] Jaipur, February 14--Mr A.B. Vajpayee has averted a possible split in the party by withdrawing his resignation from its presidency but the differences between the moderates and diehards on the issue of continued association with the RSS remain unresolved.

Mr Vajpayee's ostensible aim in submitting his resignation in the wake of the Delhi elections was to own up the responsibility for its poor performance. But, according to observers, if that was his sole purpose, his subsequent action in agreeing to continue as president has lent himself--and the party--vulnerable to the charge of resorting to gimmicks to gain popularity.

Mr Vajpayee's resignation had triggered speculation, both in political circles and a section of the press, that either the RSS hardcore was exerting pressure on him to quit or that he had chosen to make use of the opportunity to put pressure on the party to part ways with the RSS.

In fact, Mr L.K. Advani, general secretary, had warned Mr Vajpayee against the "misunderstanding" his resignation might create. But the latter chose to ignore his advice and went ahead with the move.

No Rift in Party

The interpretation of Mr Vajpayee's resignation in a section of the press has obviously caused concern to the top leadership of the party in view of the adverse impact it might have on the party's image and the rank and file. In fact, the national executive of the BJP which ended a two-day session here yesterday, devoted a substantial part of its time to a discussion on this aspect.

Not surprisingly, Mr Vajpayee and earlier Mr Ram Jethmalani were at pains to clarify that there was no rift in the party. Mr Vajpayee admitted at a news conference yesterday that the party had to issue repeated denials in this regard because the "motivated" and "malicious" interpretation of his resignation in a section of the press had caused serious misgivings and demoralization in the rank and file of the party.

Observers noted that Mr Vajpayee and Mr Jethmalani merely denied that there was any opposition to the former's continuance as the party's leader. They did not deny reports that Mr Vajpayee favoured parting of ways with the RSS.

Though Mr Vajpayee asserted that there was no link between the BJP and the RSS, this view is obviously not shared with by many BJP leaders who are only too aware of the party's origin.

Notwithstanding Mr Vajpayee's denial about any inner party struggle, the ambivalence in respect of its composition persists. After the downfall of the Janata government and break-up of the Janata party, a section in the erstwhile Jana Sangh led by Mr Vajpayee thought in terms of a broad-based party capable of becoming a national alternative to the Congress (I). The party was obliged to open its doors to various sections like the Muslims and the Harijans. Even if it could not actually become secular, it had at least to appear secular.

All these changes, it is understood, have not been to the liking of the hardcore workers who were in one way or the other influenced by the RSS.

The Delhi poll seems to have nearly precipitated a crisis in the party. It was as if it had fallen between two stools. To emerge as a national alternative, it had had to cut itself loose from some of its ancient moorings and this evidently made its orthodox followers unhappy. Yet, the BJP is nowhere near its goal of transforming itself into a modern, secular, national alternative to the Congress (I).

CPI, CPI-M REVIVE PARTY LIAISON COMMITTEE

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 18 Feb 83 p 9

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Feb. 17.—Top leaders of the CPI(M) and the CPI have decided to "develop deeper cooperation" between their parties—to bring about Communist unity in the country. As the first step, Mr B. T. Ranadive, the senior-most member of the Politburo of the CPI(M) told this reporter yesterday, that the Communist leaders had revived the liaison committee of the two parties.

The liaison committee has been in existence for the last three years but it never functioned. Mr Ranadive said the committee would be put into "more effective functioning" and would plan a greater forum for discussion.

Of course, the CPI(M) Politburo member made it clear that Communist unity was "not in sight". The leaders of the two Communist parties—at the Politburo of the CPI(M) and the central secretariat of the CPI—met here recently to discuss the outcome of the Assembly elections in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka, the forthcoming non-aligned summit here and the danger of war. On behalf of the CPI, the general secretary Mr C. Rajeshwara Rao, Mr Jagannath Sarker and Mr A. B. Bardhan attended the joint meeting. From the CPI(M), the party's general secretary, Mr E. M. S. Namboodiripad, Mr B. T. Ranadive, Mr M. Basavapunniah and Mr Harkishan Singh Surjeet attended.

The leaders of the two Communist parties also agreed to develop further cooperation between their respective All India Kisan Sabhas and launch a joint programme of action.

CPI LEADER MEETS PRESS IN CHANDIGARH

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 14 Feb 83 p 4

[Text] Chandigarh, Feb 13--CPI General Secretary C. Rajeshwara Rao has said that the mechanism provided in the Constitution should be evolved to solve Ravi Beas surplus waters dispute.

Addressing a press conference here today, he urged upon the Prime Minister to bare open her mind with regard to Akali's demands since the question could not be kept hanging. "The dispute regarding territories, the sharing of river waters and Centre-State relations could be settled provided the larger interests of the country and its security were kept in mind by all concerned and specially the ruling party. It should be remembered that a dispute in such a key border State as Punjab was dangerous especially when the US imperialists were arming Pakistan regime and have stationed a powerful navy in the Indian Ocean endangering country's security," he warned.

The CPI, he said, was vehemently opposed to the "Sikhsare-nation" thesis made in the Anandpur Sahib resolution. Its acceptance would disrupt the unity of the Punjabi people.

Mr Rao expressed his party's happiness at the Prime Minister's recent statements that a consensus had been arrived at regarding the religious demands of the Akalis.

The dispute regarding territories and the sharing of the river waters and the Centre-State relations, he stressed, should be settled keeping in view the larger interests of the country and its security.

The waters and territorial issue, he said, should be entrusted to an independent and impartial agency whose findings and decisions should be binding on all.

Mr Rao reiterated his party's demand that the Prime Minister should convene a conference of representatives of the State Governments as well as the political parties represented in Parliament and the State legislature to discuss the Centre-State relations.

The CPI, he said, was of the firm opinion that the "arbitrary powers" of the Centre to dismiss the State Governments and to hold elections at its sweet will should go.

States, he said, should be given greater power and more financial resources to enable them to discharge their responsibilities for looking after the welfare of the people and the development activities effectively.

Mr Rao said that prospects of unity between the Communist parties had brightened as differences on various national and international issues have been narrowed down.

He added it was only a matter of time for unity. "We are definitely nearer now."

He said his party high command would review the party's poor performance in the Assembly elections in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka as also in Delhi. There were many causes and one of them according to him was the split of the Communist Party.

Mr Rao characterised as "merely a gimmick" the resignation and its subsequent withdrawal by the BJP president Atal Behari Vajpayee after the Delhi elections.

CSO: 4600/1802

NEW CZECH AMBASSADOR COMMENTS ON TIES WITH INDIA

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 17 Feb 83 p 7

[Text] Dr Jaromir Nehera, the new ambassador of Czechoslovakia to India, foresees a great future for Indo-Czech relations, mainly because "there is no irritant, political or economic," in the course of its growth, reports PTI.

The two countries, he said in an interview to PTI, follow faithfully the principles of peaceful co-existence. Already theirs had become an "important example of relations" between the two States having different social systems and Dr Nehera was sure it would be so in the coming period, too.

The Czech Government, the ambassador said, attached the "utmost value" to its relations with India. Of course, spectacular growth had taken place in the field of economic relations. But the growth of "our political relations" had also been of a "great significance" for Czechoslovakia's efforts to participate in the work for preservation of peace in the world, Dr Nehera noted.

The two countries, Dr Nehera pointed out, had almost identical views on major world problems and it was gratifying to note that they had usefully cooperated in international forums, supporting each other's efforts on a number of outstanding problems, particularly in the field of peace and disarmament.

Referring to the forthcoming non-aligned summit, he said his country was hopeful that the New Delhi summit would play a positive role in strengthening the forces of peace and detente in the world.

Czechoslovakia, he said, always valued the non-aligned movement as a positive factor in the service of world peace and in the struggle against "imperialism," neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid and other evil forces in the world. Today, the movement was also playing an important role in the struggle for restructuring of international economic relations.

"We in Czechoslovakia too," Dr Nehera said, "face a lot of discrimination in world market and are, therefore, deeply interested in the just struggle of the non-aligned countries for a fair deal in trade and economic relations."

The ambassador was sure the summit would give a new impetus to these struggles.

Touching on his country's foreign policy, he said Czechoslovakia's foreign policy was aimed at facilitating mutually beneficial cooperation between the developing nations and the Socialist countries.

Fifty-year-old Dr Nehera, who presented his credentials to President Zail Sinoh on 20 Jan, is not a new comer to this country. He worked at the consulate general of Czechoslovakia in Bombay and as cultural attache at the embassy here between 1963 and 1966.

CSO: 4600/1813

KARNATAKA MINISTRY EXPANDED; MINISTERS TAKE OFFICE

Madras THE HINDU in English 17 Feb 83 p 1

[Text]

BANGALORE, Feb. 16.

The Janata Ministry in Karnataka, headed by Mr. Ramakrishna Hegde, was expanded today with the addition of 16 Ministers — eight of Cabinet rank and eight Ministers of State.

The strength of the Ministry, which took office on January 10 with eight Cabinet Ministers, has now been trebled.

The new Cabinet Ministers are: Mr. J. H. Patel (Channarayana constituency), former president of the Kranti Ranga, Mr. B. L. Gowda (Chitradurga), Mr. Aziz Sait (Narasimharaj), Mr. R. L. Jaleppa (Doddaballapur), Mr. Visweswetha Reddi (Yadgir), Mr. M. Chandrasekhar (Jayanagar), Mr. G. Basavannappa (Hosahonnur) and Mr. M. Raghupathy (Shivajinagar).

The Ministers of State are: Mr. Jivijaya (Somwarpet), Mr. M. D. Prakash (Hadagali), Mr. S. Revanna (Gubbi), Dr. Jivaraj Alva (Wayanah), Mr. P. G. R. Scindia (Kanakapura), Mr. R. C. Jigajinni (Belloli SC), Mr. R. N. Lakshminarayana (Gowribidanur) and Mr. Rajvardhan (Madhugiri SC).

The new Ministers were sworn in this afternoon, at Raj Bhavan by the outgoing Governor, Mr. Govind Narain.

Public enthusiasm: The swearing-in ceremony was held amidst unprecedented public enthusiasm. At some stages the large crowd which was barred entry into the Banquet Hall of Raj Bhavan where the ceremony was held became restive and attempted to gate crash. The police had a tough time controlling the crowd.

The crowd, which indulged in jeering and booing angered by the lack of access later broke into wild cheering when the Chief Minister, with his team made his appearance at the portico after the swearing-in ceremony was over. The entry into the Banquet Hall was restricted to invitees.

As expected, Mr. S. Bangarappa did not figure among the new entrants. The Chief Minister would not countenance his demand for renaming the Janata Government as Janata Ranga United Front Government as a condition for accepting the Chief Minister's invitation to join his Government as Deputy Chief Minister.

Two new portfolios: Mr. Hegde has

created two new portfolios, Public Grievances and Sports, as part of today's expansion. The allotment of portfolios has undergone some consequential changes.

Another feature of the Ministry-expansion is that three of the new Ministers of State have been put in independent charge of the portfolios assigned to them.

There is no change in the portfolios of the four Cabinet Ministers of the first batch, namely, Mr. S. R. Bommai (Industry and Commerce), Mr. H. D. Deve Gowda (Public Works and Major Irrigation), Mr. Abdul Nazir (Rural Development and Panchayat Raj) and Mr. B. Rachappa (Education).

The new portfolio of Sports has been assigned to Dr. Jivaraj Alva who will also be in charge of Youth Services.

The portfolio of Public Grievances has been given to Mr. A. Lakshminagar, Cabinet Minister already in charge of Law and Parliamentary Affairs. Housing has been allotted to him additionally.

The Labour and Transport Minister, Mr. V. L. Petil, has been allotted the Revenue portfolio which had not been assigned to anybody in the first instalment of Ministry formation.

There is a slight change in the portfolio of Mrs. Chandraprabha Urs, Minister for Social Welfare and Excise. While she has retained Social Welfare, she has shed Excise and taken on Sericulture.

Mr. Jivijaya, who has acquired the reputation of 'giant killer' by defeating the former Chief Minister Mr. R. Gundu Rao, in Somwarpet in Coorg district, has been given independent charge of Forests.

State Janata President: Mr. Hegde said Mr. Abdul Nazir, Minister for Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, had been appointed President of the State unit of the Janata Party.

Mr. Hegde said this was an ad hoc arrangement under which Mr. Nazir would be in charge of both offices until the party elected its president after the organisational elections.

Mr. Hegde said that though Mr. Nazir wished to resign from the Ministry he wanted to keep him for some more time because of his very good work in the field of drought relief and drinking water problem in scarcity areas.

AIR FORCE GROUNDS DAKOTA, FAIRCHILD AIRCRAFT

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 14 Feb 83 p 5

[Text] New Delhi, February 13 (UNI)--About 100 Dakotas and Fairchild transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force have been grounded because of fatigue and some cracks have been detected in their wing spurs.

The IAF is now carrying out detailed inspection of these vintage aircraft and some are likely to be scrapped.

The IAF is finding it difficult to get spare parts for these aircraft which are now considered inadequate for difficult operations in the mountainous terrain of the northern and eastern regions.

India is the only country to operate such a large number of Dakota aircraft.

Meanwhile, the air force is trying to get Soviet AN-32 medium tactical transport aircraft. According to indications, the AN-32s have undergone some modifications in the Soviet Union to meet the requirements of the Indian Air Force for landing in high places and in bad weather conditions.

The Dakotas were inducted into service in 1946 and had also lent a hand to the IAF in offensive action when some of them were fitted with four 250-lb. bombs.

The Dakotas had been used in the 1962 operations and formed part of the fleet which air-dropped paratroopers and stores in Bangladesh in 1971. They have also been employed in aid-to-civil authority tasks for years. They have remained tactical transport support to troops and para-military forces in the difficult jungle and mountain terrain of the NEFA and Naga hills.

The Fairchild packets had entered the service of the IAF in 1952. Later, several of them were retrofitted with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited built Orpheus 701 turbojets. The Fairchild packets provided logistic support to the Himalayan front until supplemented by the Soviet-supplied AN-12 transport aircraft.

CSO: 4600/1802

BRIEFS

INDIAN ANTARCTICA TEAM--New Delhi, February 15 (UNI)--The second Indian Antarctica team has successfully carried out the geological survey of Wohlthat mountain, 80 km south of Dakshin Gangotri in Antarctica. Official reports reaching here said this is the first ever survey carried out by any country in the world. A spokesman of the department of oceanography said here today the expedition was completing its assignments, including the setting up of a meteorological data collection centre in Dakshin Gangotri, as per schedule. The team will leave behind data-collecting equipment in the specially built structure. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 16 Feb 83 p 9]

KARNATAKA MINISTRY EXPANSION--Bangalore, Feb 15--The one-month old eight-member Hegde ministry is to be expanded tomorrow. The chief minister, Mr Ramakrishna Hegde, today called on the governor, Mr Govind Narain. It is understood there will be an addition of about 15 ministers--seven of cabinet rank and eight ministers of state. Meanwhile, the 18-member BJP and the three-member CPM groups, both supporters of the Hegde ministry in Karnataka, appear to be heading for a confrontation. Mr A.K. Subbaiah, BJP president in Karnata, today revealed that Mr S. Suryanarayana Rao, leader of the CPM group, who was elected last month from the Varthur constituency, could not function as a legislator on account of a three-year bar imposed on him by the election commission. According to Mr Subbaiah, Mr Rao had failed to submit his election accounts in 1980 when he had unsuccessfully contested the assembly election and, for this reason, the commission had debarred him from being a candidate for three years from February 2, 1980. He said he was taking up the matter with the election commission. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 16 Feb 83 p 9]

AMBASSADOR TO YAR--Mr Ranjit Gupta, presently director in Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as ambassador of India to Yemen Arab Republic in succession to Mr Dharam Paul Pasricha. Mr Gupta is expected to take up his assignment shortly. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 13 Feb 83 p 5]

MARXIST ON CRISIS--Trivandrum, February 16--The CPM general secretary, Mr E.M.S. Namboodiripad, said here today that the financial crisis of Kerala was only a by-product of the national problem prevalent for the last several years. The spending spree resorted to by the present ruling front was only adding to the present crisis, according to him. As the chief minister of the state in 1968, he had warned the national development council of the impending crisis. None had heeded it and his prediction of those years had come true now, he said. The Marxist leader anticipated that the national crisis would become worse after the announcement of the next budget. The country was seeking fresh loans from the IMF. The price hike in oil was meant to please the IMF, he claimed. In Assam, he justified the participation of the left democratic parties in the elections. Parties like the Janata and the BJP, by their boycott of the poll, were in effect promoting the interests of the agitators, he said. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 17 Feb 83 p 4]

NEW OIL DISCOVERY--New Delhi, Feb 16--The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has struck oil in the G-2-2 offshore well in the Krishan-Godavari basin. The oil flow amounts to 865 barrels a day. The oil strike was made at a depth of 2026 to 2031 metres. It is very light. There are several other zones in this well which are under test. The ONGC began drilling this well on November 11 last year and it has been drilled to a depth of 3657 metres. The earlier indication of the presence of oil and gas in the well in December last has now been confirmed. The first well in the offshore area of the Krishna-Godavari basin, G-1-1 was drilled in 1980. During production testing in 1980, a flow of 580 barrels of crude per day was noticed from one interval and a gas flow of 403,000 cubic metres per day from another interval. This G-1 structure gave a promising lead for the discovery of hydrocarbons. In the offshore areas of the basin exploratory drilling started in 1978 and the first well at Narasapur showed the presence of high pressure gas. Subsequently two more wells were drilled in Narasapur and the second well also showed the presence of hydrocarbons. Production testing, is in progress in another well in Razole. These oil and gas finds together with indication of the presence of natural gas in the cretaceous sands in the onshore wells drilled in Narasapur and Razole, make the offshore and onshore areas in the Krishna-Godavari basin which covers 41,000 sq kilometres, most promising for the discovery of hydrocarbons. Exploration efforts in the basin are being accelerated. In the offshore area 15 prospects have been delineated already. Two drilling rigs are already in operation, another one has been just introduced and two more rigs are expected to be introduced in 1983-84. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 17 Feb 83 p 1]

NEW NEPALESE AMBASSADOR--The new Nepalese Ambassador to India, Mr Jagdish Rana on Saturday presented his credentials to President Zail Singh, reports UNI. Welcoming Mr Rana, the President said India attaches great importance to relations with Nepal "and it has been our endeavour to add new dimension to old ties." Earlier, presenting his credentials, Mr Rana said the existing traditional goodwill and friendship between the two countries are recorded in golden letters in history. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 Feb 83 p 5]

SITUATION PORTRAYED BY PRIME MINISTER ON OCCASION OF ANNIVERSARY

Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 9 Feb 83 pp 14,5

[Interview with Prime Minister Musavi; date and place not specified]

[Text] Islamic Republic Political Service--As the fifth victorious year of our glorious Islamic revolution nears, Engineer Mir Hosseyn Musavi, the prime minister, analyzed the general situation of the country and revolution in an exclusive interview with our reporter.

As Musavi described the various dimensions of the Iranian Islamic revolution from its beginning up to the present, he stated:

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. The passage of four years from the revolution gives us the opportunity to carry out a more precise evaluation of our revolution's essence and our accomplishments. At first glance it seems that the system has gained complete stability, the various revolutionary organs have matured, and the main goals have been clarified in a detailed way. What I mean by the latter is that values were propounded in the revolution at first, but they had a general aspect. Therefore various lines interpreted these values, and for this reason servants of the United States and other arrogant powers tried to make use of the vagueness inherent in the generality of the goals to interpret them to their own benefit. However, the revolution confronted all those lines, and naturally, with the coming of new political, social and cultural issues, detailed solutions and carefully discriminated goals were found. In each step we took we pushed aside the deviationist lines, and unhealthy, affiliated and deviationist developments were purified. Now as we approach the fifth year of our revolution's victory, we are not facing any kind of obscurity whatsoever in this regard. The system has succeeded in building itself in the oven of events and political and social conflict, and is now standing more firmly than it was on its first day, with the bright prospect of the revolution before it. Regarding domestic issues, we see that the system has established its political authority in every nook and cranny of the country, something that was not so at the beginning of the revolution. If you recall Gonbad-e Qabus, Kurdistan, the U.S. tribal chiefs, etc., that were in the country's nooks and crannies, well, we were able to triumph over all of them.

The revolution has consolidated its political presence in the villages by means of deep cultural influence. I mean that when the revolution had an Islamic aspect, the villages naturally sided with it, and continued the revolutionary movement shoulder to shoulder with the large cities. However, our villages were not very informed about the revolution's nature. But the revolution's bases of political authority became firmer as the revolution grew and expanded and the revolutionary institutions went to the villages. For this reason you cannot go to any spot in the country where the inhabitants are not acquainted with society's most fundamental issues. Once we had gone to Boyer Ahmad, and our helicopter chanced to land in a spot there and we got out. It was a place where the basic necessities of life did not exist. Yet we saw that they chanted the same slogans there and they looked at issues as the major ones just as they did in the big cities. This is an indication of the revolution's depth, and I think this is unparalleled in the rest of the world. From another angle, the people's doubts and uncertainties have subsided. At the time of the liberals and Bani-Sadr there were persons who were uncertain whether to join that wing or the other, as was the case among the technocrats. Thus when Bani-Sadr left, the liberals blew up this issue, saying that if the Party of God were to rule, it would be bereft of the help of the technocrats and the managers. But we say that this stratum increasingly turned towards the revolution and revolutionary values, and that this attitude was felt much more strongly than in the past.

The Imam's latest decree will certainly encourage them to guard the revolution and serve the country. This was our domestic situation from the political angle. From the economic aspect, we have deficits, which have been discussed a great deal. On the other hand, we also have strengths. One very significant strong point on which we can rely is our tendency towards economic independence, which has not been interrupted for even a moment. A movement towards self-sufficiency has been created. For the first time in the history of our Islamic nation, planning is firmly planted on the basis of values that emerged from the revolution and on ensuring the interests of the deprived. Public income is distributed to serve the villages and society's oppressed strata. These are things we can rely on. Of course points of pressure also exist, including large amounts of loose capital and the large volume of cash the people are holding. Naturally this incites inflation, and we must be on guard against it as a dangerous factor.

However, there is something which can compensate for these problems, which is that last year our per capita gross production was positive for the first time, while in the four years we had a 13 percent decrease on the average. This is a critical figure. On the basis of our figures, this year will greatly surpass last year, and we hope to have increasing growth in future years. This can be computed as a determinative factor. We had an unprecedented spurt in the area of innovation. When the revolution lifted the barriers, the people moved in that direction, and the government supports this innovation and initiative with all its power. Although there are persons within our old bureaucratic system who sometimes resist these innovations, it is the Islamic revolution's plan to let these forces move more freely with each passing day, and to support them. We rely on this as a major factor. I think that in order to pass through economic crises we should give more importance to initiative and invention than is done in other countries.

However, on the eve of the fifth year of the great victory of Iran's Islamic revolution, it is enough to look at the results of the Assembly of Experts election when analyzing the cultural situation. At a time of war and economic problems the people deeply joined their destiny with the revolution's and despite all the poisonous propaganda in this regard that came from foreigners, 18 million people participated in the voting. This is an indication of how deeply the revolution's culture has rooted in the hearts of the people. To speak in a bit more detail, we can observe a profound transformation in the people's behavior and action. It is enough for us to compare the pictures in the streets during the Idol's era with those today, and see the matter clearly. It is good that the television broadcasts this comparison to the public.

Of course I am pointing to the visible aspects of the culture. How much has the culture affected tastes, dressing habits and even the manner of walking! The culture's range of effect is so vast that it has even affected our culinary habits.

However, in a more special sense, we see the people have gained a larger, broader awareness of a revolutionary cultural dimension, culture here meaning what it does in schools and universities.

During the past hundred years a vast gap developed in Islamic literature and art. While we had no creativity whatsoever at the start of the revolution's victory, we can now observe healthy movements in every field of art, including poetry and prose, theatre, cinema, photography and journalism.

The JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI newspaper itself is an expressive witness to this claim. When we wanted to found the JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI newspaper, we searched the entire country for two religious writers, but we could not find any. Now however, the newspaper has become a bright center for the creative and committed forces in its capacity as an exporter of writers and journalists. These are some of the blessings from the revolution. When we look at our creative forces in the art field, and compare the number of our forces with that at the beginning of the revolution, we observe that this growth has been very rapid and determinative.

Concerning the current situation of the Iranian Islamic revolution worldwide, Engineer Musavi stated: The revolution's current position in the world is one of great consolidation. At the beginning of the revolution's victory, all the media were compelled to inform the world of it due to the importance of the event that was occurring and because it was an extraordinary phenomenon. However, they tried to transform its contents, and connect it with the liberals and nationalists. They were trying as much as they could to downplay the role of the leadership in the movement, and show it to be an anarchistic movement on a broad scale. They tried to present a black image of the revolution to the world's people. However, an affection for our revolution throughout the world was created by the huge demonstrations by the people and the news about them. After the revolution triumphed, the media made their campaign even more poisonous, and when they despaired of bringing their favorite system to power, their attacks on the revolution became more intense.

Then they began dirtying the face of the revolution inside and outside the country, and newspapers such as the BAMDAD, AYENDEGAN, KEYHAN, and ETTELA'AT of those days, in addition to dozens of other publications like CHALANGAR, etc., helped the matter along. Foreign correspondents were scattered all over the country, and they raised the banners of the groups, and showed the country to the world from the viewpoint of the mini-groups.

At that time I was at JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, and they brought photographs to the newspaper of a group holding a demonstration, and among the demonstrators were foreign correspondents preparing their stories.

I remember the time when Martin Daftari's Democratic Front put on a demonstration, and threw stones at people. We criticized them for this, and afterwards we came under attack as a reactionary newspaper. The same demonstration had given assigned seats to foreign reporters, and apparently this faked conflict was to be broadcast around the world as an attack of the club-wielders.

In any case they were trying to gradually present the revolution in a bad light outside the country. Naturally there was unrest in the country, there were confrontations with the liberals and the mini-group movements, and this created doubt and hesitation in the world's public opinion. Our greatest capital was thus endangered. There was even a group who liked to imagine that the revolution was being destroyed by these assaults from every direction. In those days when I was studying the news and the telexes I saw that day by day the amount of cheering news disseminated about the revolution decreased. Iraq's attack on our country was actually a shot fired by imperialism to finish us off. Eventually, when the Party of God elements stood strongly in place, they realized what was going on inside the country.

They understood that the revolution was so deep that it could not be brought down by these desperate movements. Our people resisted Iraq's widespread aggression. They crushed an enormous coup d'etat plot, the Nuzheh plot. They kept the U.S. spies in the spy nest for a long time despite various pressures. But they did not even wrinkle their brow. We resisted the economic blockade, and the resistance was so strong that we showed no weakness whatsoever abroad. At the instant 72 of the nation and revolution's best progeny were martyred, the revolution remained standing. The dearly beloved president and prime minister were martyred together, but the revolution remained on its feet. All these things gradually made an impact on the opinion of the world's masses. We are now about to enter the fifth year of the revolution, a revolution that is pictured by the world's people as a firm, steely revolution. No force can overthrow this revolution. To quote the imam, this revolution is a divine birth. We had diplomatic contacts during the past year and a half, and I now make this evaluation that they have a deep feeling about the revolution and at the same time an uncomprehending attitude. Our revolution has now made such an impact on the world over. Naturally, with the high morale that was created following our nation's victories and resistances, we have been energetic in foreign policy, and this very thing has caused us to have more friends than during the previous four years. By friends I mean here countries throughout the world that consider themselves compelled to have friendlier relations with

us. Our revolution is a loud voice in this era, and a determinative force in the region. Our foreign relations have now become stronger and more extensive. I consider it necessary to note here that at the time when our nation was resisting and in reality displayed its uncompromising spirit, there were persons, led by Bani-Sadr, who shouted about isolation, who were saying that the revolution was becoming isolated. But we continued the same approach, and we now see that isolation apparently no longer exists.

9597

CSO: 46-0/137

BAKHTIAR INTERVIEWED ON ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION

Paris LETTRE PERSANE in French Feb 83 pp 4-7

[Interview with Shapur Bakhtiar by Leonid Plyush; date and place not given]

[Text] Can one truly give the vast program of retardation undertaken by Khomeyni 4 years ago now in Iran the same name as that which tipped France from the Old Regime into the modern era or that which transformed czarist Russia into the Soviet Union? Isn't the word "revolution" used abusively when it describes the seizure of a country, barely opened up to progress, by a theocracy in the Islamic tradition? Would there have been talk of the "ideas of 1789" if France had been guided by Savonarola instead of Robespierre, and what would have become of "scientific socialism" if Rasputin had headed the October Revolution instead of Lenin? A very curious problem, but one suited to the drama the people of Iran have lived since those days in February 1979 which marked the end of the democratic experiment of Shapur Bakhtiar, who is charged with having wanted to see the constitution finally respected.

After 25 years of repeated violations of the constitutional principles, the dream of liberty had faded and the Inquisition had been established. SAVAK, the political police of sinister memory which Bakhtiar eliminated, was replaced by the SAVAMA. The press, loosed during this too-short period of freedom against the man who had after all given it, for the first time since Mosaddeq, the means of expressing itself fully, was muzzled again, but by Islamic censorship this time. The political parties, which were nonexistent prior to the Bakhtiar government but which multiplied thanks to the impetus he gave them, were consigned again to medieval oblivion with the advent of Khomeyni. "There is no party but that of God." "God is great." "Islamic Republic--not one word more nor less." These were the slogans which the "Imam," the "Supreme Guide," the "Messiah"--whose adorers see his portrait in the moon--was to have the electrified crowds reiterate day in and day out. Religion, adoration, messianism, charisma, theocracy--didn't this phenomenon termed "revolution" have more the aspect of a "revelation?" This formidable campaign to mystify and obscure through religion the natural aspirations of a people who wanted only more freedom, greater well-being and more progress, intrigued a free man, a dissident, a victim of another kind of totalitarianism--that of the Gulag. Leonid Plyush, who passed through the Soviet camps as did Solzhenitsyn, Sakharov, Shcharanskiy and many others, the man whose release world public opinion demanded and obtained, and who is not unfamiliar

with any of the results of what is called "revolution," has provided LETTRE PERSANE with this report, and quite naturally talked in this connection with another free man, he who symbolizes democracy for Iran, Shapur Bakhtiar.

We Wanted Drastic and Profound Reform

Plyush: How do you view the situation in Iran and the history of Iran in these recent years--the era of the shah, the revolution, and the current developments? What are the social forces at work, the classes, the minorities and the international forces which have helped the Iranian revolution?

Bakhtiar: You know, each revolution, in all the senses of the word, has always been a turn backward in the development of society for the people seeking political, economic and social progress. The Iranian case is no different. The constitutional revolution which occurred 76 years ago came about under the influence of the Russian social democrats, to a great extent.

That constitutional revolution and the constitution it gave us obviously sufficed to enable the country to advance gradually toward the basic freedoms and social development. With the 1921 coup d'etat, the movement toward progress by stages made possible by the constitution was halted, and a strong dictatorial regime was established in Iran under the authority of Reza Khan, who later became Reza Shah. Perhaps on the international level this was to put a stop to the influence of the Soviet regime in order to block its access to the Indian route. At the time, this was the policy of England, which to that end had given its aid to the establishment of the regime of Reza Khan. I explained all of these developments throughout "My Fidelity," and I think that many problems are clarified therein, if you will refer to that book, available in both Persian and French. I would like to return to the question asked me, that is the causes of the Khomeyni revolution. As I said in this book, the constitution which had been proclaimed was not subsequently implemented. In these latter years, large sums of money obtained from petrodollars came into the country and were spent on the nonproductive sectors, which caused the class inequalities to deepen. That is the economic aspect. Individual freedoms and all national and democratic feelings were repressed by the shah. The people were forced either toward the religious leaders or toward the communists. Where my own role in these events was concerned, we did not want a revolution organized by the religious leaders. We wanted radical and profound reforms undertaken by a lay government in Iran based on independence, freedom and social progress. As for myself, as I have already said, I was a young man in the era of Mosaddeq, whose path I followed, even after his fall, adapting it to circumstances and events. I firmly believed that it was necessary to implement the principles of independence and liberty in Iran, not that I was a utopian or an idealist. Countries such as the United States, the USSR, England and Western Europe as a whole each have interests which Iran can accept and we should take them into account, but our independence, our freedom override these considerations. It is on this point that we insisted in the Mosaddeq tradition--I myself, like almost all the members of the National Front.

Why Did the USSR Collaborate With the Shah:

Plyush: You have said that you were particularly opposed to a religious revolution. Is it that you regard communist revolution, for example, as more progressive than a religious revolution?

Bakhtiar: For me, basically, revolution in the French sense of the word means a turn backward. A revolver fires several shots before returning to the initial point. The happiness of a people has never been achieved by revolution. It is when reforms come too late that an explosion occurs and men are killed. If the shah had realized what was happening only 1 year earlier and had outlined some development, it would have been possible to avoid all that.

Similarly, it is said that if Kerenskiy had come to power a year earlier, Lenin would never have been able to reach Kronstadt.

Plyush: I agree with you entirely. But Solzhenitsyn refutes precisely this, believing that it was the February revolution which paved the way for that in October. For my part I think that if the revolution had succeeded in 1905, the Soviet barbarism could have been avoided.

Bakhtiar: Of course. But all aspects of the problem must be analyzed. I am convinced that if the czarist troops had not suffered defeats such as that at Tannenberg, this situation perhaps might not have been created. In any case, a revolution is always the result of a refusal to recognize movement forward, toward progress, toward freedom and toward democracy. Ideological, philosophical and moral considerations are intermingled with material and economic factors. Thus we can say that it is not revolution that we wanted, but reforms effected by men defending the interests of the country, of the nation, defenders of progress and democracy in Iran, and all this within the framework of that same constitution which had never been implemented. Now let us examine the question you asked, to wit, what the policy of foreign nations was in connection with this revolution.

From the fall of Mosaddeq to the establishment of the Khomeyni regime, the shah, in whose regime dictatorship and corruption coexisted, was supported by the Soviets for certain reasons, and by the Americans for others. In other words, the shah had otherwise more favorable relations with the Soviet Union than did Mosaddeq. This point is also dealt with in my book.

One might ask why the USSR collaborated with the shah. It was because it was aware that his regime had no future, while a social democratic regime would not lead to an impasse. As long as the shah was governing, with absolute power, the goings and comings of Brezhnev, Kosygin and Podgornyy to and from Iran were frequent, and their praise for this regime never ended. But as soon as the first tremblings were felt and the shah showed an inclination toward liberalization, the Soviet government immediately distanced itself and decided to get well out of the affair. Thus it is clear that the Soviet Union wants to destroy the stability of this region in order to succeed in orienting its expansion policy as it desires. My theory, which I have set

forth many times, is that inevitably communism will either disappear, or it will be transformed to the point of being unrecognizable, or it will take over the entire world. This comes down to three hypothetical cases.

Hybrid American Position

Plyush: Here I have two questions to ask you. An American journalist and political commentator wrote an article in a Russian publication to the effect that the United States made its error in supporting the liberal forces, yourself in particular, and weakening the position of the shah thereby, whereas what should have been done at all cost was to support his regime firmly and strengthen it so that the destabilization which followed would not have occurred. Thus the hybrid American position would have led to what happened with Kerenskiy, in other words it would have allowed the next wave to break. Put in another way, the liberals would never have been in a position to remain in power. I do not agree with this analysis, but for example the German social democrats before Hitler in particular showed that social democracy cannot keep the situation in hand for long either.

Bakhtiar: Are you speaking of Schumacher, for example? You see, the problem is that the Americans themselves strengthened the dictatorial and corrupt regime in Iran to a great extent, in their own interests. Wouldn't it have been better to avoid reaching the point of telling the shah that they were supporting his dictatorship? I myself heard an American president--it was Nixon, I believe--telling the shah that "all you have done, all you are doing and all you will do will have our support." This meant giving him carte blanche. Now obviously, when a dictator is losing ground and one helps him, there is a possibility that he will remain yet a little while in power but ... after that?

Plyush: I have a question which is important to me. But it involves a problem which is somewhat removed from our subject. I recall that when I was a student and a political propaganda official in the Ukraine, the propagandist said, in connection with our relations with Iran and when speaking to us of Soviet diplomacy: "One day, the shah came to the Soviet Union, where we introduced him to a young Iranian student whom he married. Some time later, she returned to the Crimea, and he joined her there. He told her there that he would make the Americans remove their bases from Iran. Later we helped him to prospect for oil and we sent in our soldiers to protect the oil pipeline, and now Iran is within our grasp." This was a course on Soviet diplomacy we were taught in 1966-1967. What do you think about that?

Bakhtiar: That story is closer to mythology than to reality.

Plyush: The problem is that this course was sponsored by the comrades in the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Ukraine.

Bakhtiar: Brainwashing involves recourse to tremendous lies, such as those of which Goebbels made use. Although even Goebbels did not perpetrate so many. Where American policy and that of the Soviet Union, of which I spoke, are concerned, one can wonder if, at the beginning of the revolution, the

USSR, which always has a long-term view, and the U.S., which found itself faced with an unusual situation, or again the entire West--France, England, Germany, etc.--really wanted to encourage Khomeyni. For my part, I do not think so. But it was when they realized that the shah had lost control of the situation and that they were likely to see the Soviet Union exercising increasing influence over Iran that the Western countries decided to block the advance of the USSR, which in turn, with a view to destabilizing the country, reached agreement with them to prevent the advent of a democratic and independent regime. The reasons of the Soviets were of a certain sort, since they knew that clerical destabilization would lead to an impasse. The Western reasons were of another sort, because they thought that the clergy, religion, the green belt and all those affectations could temporarily block the communist influence and infiltration, because there was no longer at that time any living, dynamic force in Iran. It was thus that the Westerners aided Khomeyni and the Soviets, for their part, were in agreement, and said to themselves: "Whenever there is a revolution, we ourselves are revolutionaries, and so long live the revolution!"

Thus a plan drafted well beforehand with regard to the establishment of Khomeyni seems to me in any case hardly probable. But when the situation developed in that direction, each side, for different reasons, supported Khomeyni. The Soviets in particular said: "We can get along with him, because what is happening there is an anti-imperialist revolution."

The War Between Iraq and Iran

What is the background of the war between Iraq and Iran?

Rekhtiar: You know that Khomeyni was in exile in Iraq for many long years, where he concerned himself with religious matters, but also openly intervened from time to time in Iraq's political affairs. Thus when the differences between Iran and Iraq became obvious, Khomeyni profited from the opportunity to increase his influence in Iran. But after the signing of the Algiers Treaty in 1975 (settling the boundary disputes between the two countries--Editor's note), the Iraqi government soft-pedaled Khomeyni's activities. When he was forced out of Iraq, he went to France, and from there to Iran, arriving with the most hostile of feelings toward the Iraqis and in particular their vice president at the time, Saddam-Hussein. In addition, the regime, the Baas, if not democratic, nonetheless remains secular.

and this was why Khomeyni, from the very first day he set foot in Iran, quite naturally tried to destabilize the Baas government in Iraq, using money, terrorism, religious propaganda, etc.

and as Khomeyni had liquidated all of the higher cadres of the Iranian army, something like what Stalin did with Tukhachevskiy and others, the Iraqis, seeing that military force humiliated and crushed, thought this would provide an opportunity to settle their accounts with Khomeyni once and for all, and thus to gain a position of force in the Arab world. This was a great error they made, in attacking Iran first. In fact, while the Iranians resisted this attack against their own country, Iraq thought it could oust Khomeyni

first, and then negotiate with Iran as a conqueror, without taking the patriotic and national war, of which Russian history has provided us with many examples, into account. As in the days of Gustavus Adolphus and the Swedish princes who attacked Moscow, finding themselves faced with a people in struggle, the Iranian forces, despite the extremely difficult conditions which faced them, for reasons I have just mentioned, had no option but to defend their territory, and thereby to aid Khomeyni. In short, the Iraqis, instead of ousting Khomeyni, forced a large number of people to support him. Who profits most from this kind of war? Well, all of the colonial countries which know that the more various peoples destroy themselves, massacre each other and bring about their own ruin, the more these countries will be needed to rebuild them, to meet their technological needs, etc., and as a result, the more they will turn toward them. "Business is business. Money will flow and we will have provided a service." Although Iraq is trying today through the Islamic and other international commissions to negotiate peace, with a withdrawal to its earlier territorial positions, which it has practically accomplished already, Khomeyni is answering that in order to strengthen his positions he must continue this war. In fact, it allows him to keep troops far from Tehran, avoiding danger from that source, while at the same time it justifies the situation. One must take the rough with the smooth. Moreover, Khomeyni's estimate is quite correct. In fact, so long as this war of attrition continues, he can hope, where he is concerned, that no danger will threaten him from within, where the reign of terror he established continues. The army remains unable to leave the frontier, and he can therefore do as he sees fit, putting in practice his absurd and obscurantist ideology which he wants to impose under the flag of Islam, hoping thus to conquer I do not know what territory, in brief all of these stupidities which I will not even take the trouble to list again.

The Rasputin-Like Mysticism of the People

Plyush: You think then that for Khomeyni, ideology is but a tool and that he himself is not a fanatic here?

Bakhtiar: No, I am persuaded that on the intellectual and mental level, Khomeyni is extremely restricted and narrow. His knowledge and his personality are very limited, as are his relations with the people. Thus he must of course believe that to return to the Islam of 14 centuries ago will guarantee the happiness of the people, but at the same time, he draws all the advantages he can from modern technology and equipment, while throwing the green flag of Islam in the face of the people, which helps him to keep them stupefied.

Plyush: Like Hitler.

Bakhtiar: Yes, that's it, a little like Hitler. But Hitler for his part had constructed his racial myth, while Khomeyni makes Islam the big thing. In any case, one is as illogical as the other.

Plyush: I would like however to go back to the role of ideology, even, in this case, precise ideology. It seems to me that there is not ideology, but

rather psychoideology, in revolutions, in other words the wildest and most savage ideas, having no link between them, even internally, but nonetheless playing a basic role in mass movements. From this point of view, educational level is unimportant. In reality, bolshevism is not in my opinion a revival of European thought, Marxism in particular, but a savage synthesis of the most contradictory religious attacks by the people. In this connection, the psychoideology of the Khomeyni movement may play a basic role. Currently I am studying the psychoideology of bolshevism between 1905 and the '20s, and I see a mixture of the decadent and Nietzschean aspect of the mysticism of the intelligentsia and the Rasputin-like mysticism of the people and eschatological attacks by builders of God of the Lunacharskiy type. It is this mixture which dominated both the party and its allies among the peasantry and the people, that is to say among the most obscure strata of the population where the mystical element of Rasputin's Khlyst sect, etc., was constantly present.

Rakhtiar: Listen, I am sure of one thing, and that is without freedom of thought, there is not in the long run any progress possible, and what in the Khomeyni regime provokes the disgust and contempt I feel for such regimes is precisely that they necessarily halt progress. I am speaking of the dogma to the effect that without freedom of thought, there would be no progress in any field, whether it be sciences, or Galileo, or Bergson, or Dostoyevskiy, or any other. But one thing seems certain to me: Khomeyni and the bolsheviks can say anything they want, but a bolshevik cannot say one thing--that he is a democrat--and it is that which is basic for me.

VELAYATI SAYS OUTCOME OF TRIP TO DPRK, SRI LANKA WAS 'POSITIVE'

Tehran JOMUFI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 10 Feb 83 p 15

[Text] Velayati, minister of foreign affairs, has returned to Tehran from his trips to North Korea and Sri Lanka. The minister of foreign affairs made statements about his trips in an interview which you read below:

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate.

My trip to the two countries of North Korea and Sri Lanka took place at the prior invitation of the foreign ministers of the two countries. These two countries supported the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran from the beginning of our Islamic revolution. Sri Lanka's foreign minister came to Tehran immediately after the victory of the Islamic revolution, and invited the Islamic Republic of Iran to join the Nonaligned Movement. We have cooperated a great deal in regards to the Nonaligned Movement. North Korea was one of the countries that cooperated with us greatly in regards to changing the location of the Nonaligned Conference from Baghdad to New Delhi. Our trip to that country was an effective help to expanding and consolidating relations in various fields, the results of which will be evident in the future.

At the present time North Korea annually buys about 1 million tons of petroleum from us. Reciprocally, we buy steel from that country in the form of I-beams and steel sheeting for consumption in our factories. On the whole, we have good economic and political relations. Furthermore, we are close to the Nonaligned Conference in New Delhi, and one of the issues to be raised is that of the next meeting, meaning the eighth conference. North Korea is one of the candidates. We are supporting the candidacy of North Korea. Thus it was necessary for us to coordinate ourselves with them.

Our country's delegation to North Korea had constructive meetings with the North Korean president, the foreign minister and other officials.

Sri Lanka, which we used to call Ceylon, has had extensive trade relations with us since ancient days. It exported tea and spices to our country. The country is located to the south of the Indian sub-continent, and it is a country which still has a principal role in the Nonaligned Movement. The country was one of the founders of the Nonaligned Movement. It has a popular government relying on the people's vote. It will achieve self-sufficiency in agriculture and foodstuffs in the next three or four years.

It produces half a million tons of tea annually. The method of tea cultivation and droplet irrigation there is very advanced. By cooperating with them in tea cultivation, we can use their advances in this area as a model and pattern for improving the state of our own tea cultivation. By making changes, we can easily achieve self-sufficiency in the tea industry.

Sri Lanka supplies a portion of its oil from us, and we get tea and spices from them in return. We can expand relations with them in these areas, in the areas of agriculture and industry. Again, in light of Sri Lanka's important role in the Nonaligned Movement, it was necessary to coordinate with each other. This coordination took place in various areas, we hope that its effects will appear in the coming Nonaligned Conference in New Delhi.

During our one and a half day stop-over in Sri Lanka, we met with the country's president, the foreign minister and the economic, trade and industrial ministers.... In my view, the meetings were constructive. Peace be on you, and good luck and blessing.

6/6

84 44 155

FINANCE MINISTER TAKEN TO TASK FOR HIDING DEVALUATION

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 8 Feb 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Hypothesis or a Reality"]

[Text] Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan, in reply to a question put by a member of the Federal Consultative Council in the question and answer period during its current session, called devaluation of the Pakistani rupee by 30 percent after its connection with the dollar is severed a mere hypothesis. He said that the values of the currencies of other countries continue to fluctuate on the international level and that the government is striving to consolidate the value of the Pakistani currency. We are surprised at the skilled finance minister's statement in the full house openly declaring a reality as a hypothesis. Newspapers daily publish the value of the Pakistani rupee and those of other currencies with respect to the value of the dollar. For example, in today's papers the value of the dollar is shown as 13 rupees. But on 10 January, the rate of exchange was 10 rupees to the dollar. Thus, as can be seen, there has been a depreciation in the value of the Pakistani rupee of 30 percent. It is true that the rate of exchange of currencies and their values keep on fluctuating, but when depreciation occurs continuously and when the value of the Pakistani rupee drops by 30 percent, then we say that its value has depreciated by 30 percent. As such, this is a reality and not a hypothesis and is 100 percent correct. We acknowledge that the finance minister is the king of figures and that we have no right to interfere in his domain. All the same, taking extra expenditures into consideration, people engaged in business activities certainly end up paying somewhat more than 13 rupees to the dollar. Formerly, banks charged established fees, but now the Finance Ministry has given the State Bank full permission to charge whatever fees it pleases. The simple truth that the finance minister does not wish to acknowledge openly is that it was under pressure of the World Bank and other international financial organizations for a long time to devalue the Pakistani rupee. After resisting for a long time, it finally had to give in to this pressure. But instead of devaluing the Pakistani rupee, other devices were adopted. In other words, the relationship of the Pakistani rupee to the dollar was broken. The end result thus achieved was the same as that desired by financial organizations--devaluation. Instead of telling the nation that the devaluation of the Pakistani rupee was 30 percent is a hypothesis and not a reality, wouldn't it have been better if the nation

and confided in and told that under pressure from international organizations it was forced to take this step? Not only has the nation been bearing such a burden but it has also put up with incompetent advisers and ministers and may have to do so for some time to come.

At the time the relationship between the dollar and the rupee was severed the nation was given the good news that this action would increase our exports and usher in an era of prosperity. What really happened was that instead of increasing, exports started to dwindle and imports increased by leaps and bounds and the expected goal of prosperity is still not in sight. The people had hardly adjusted to the taxes of the new budget when, under the "mini budget" prices for gasoline, diesel oil and other goods were increased. At that time, the people were comforted by being told that the increase in prices would not affect the common consumer. But the finance minister saw for himself that the enhancement of the revenue affected the prices of about all the goods. Price controls also proved to be nothing more than a trick and the middle and the poor classes once again found themselves in the grip of inflation. We would like to ask the finance minister whether the continuous increase in prices is a reality or a hypothesis.

4/15

NO: 4656/108

PAKISTAN-NIGER RELATIONS TO EXPAND

GF121300 Karachi DAWN in English 8 Mar 83 p 6

[Joint communique issued at the conclusion of the visit of Niger President Seyni Kountche to Pakistan on 6 March]

[Text] [At] the invitation of His Excellency General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, His Excellency Brigadier General Seyni Kountche, president of the Republic of Niger, paid a state visit to Pakistan from 4 to 6 March 1983.

The president and his party were given a rousing welcome by the people of Pakistan, reflecting the warm and fraternal relationship existing between the people of Pakistan and Niger.

During his stay in Pakistan, the president of Niger held formal talks with the president of Pakistan and discussed ways and means of strengthening and promoting their bilateral cooperation in various fields. They also discussed important current issues of concern to the international community. The talks took place in a friendly and cordial atmosphere and were marked by a close identity of views between the two sides.

The president of Niger was assisted in the talks by the following:

1) H.S. Major Bagnou Beido, member, Supreme Military Council. 2) H.E. Mr Daouda Diallo, minister for foreign affairs and cooperation. 3) H.E. Mr Oumarou Diallo, minister for mines and industry. 4) Mr Almoustapha Soumaila, minister of state for commerce and transport. 5) Mr Sani Bako, director, cabinet of the president. 6) Mr Sani Koutoubi, director general on arm. [title as published] 7) Mr Zada Adamou, director, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. [title as published] 8) Mr Maiga Abdoulaye, director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

The president of Pakistan was assisted in the talks by the following:

1) Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, minister of finance, commerce, planning and coordination. 2) Mr Mahmood A. Haroon, minister for interior. 3) Vice-Admiral Mohammad Fazil Janjua, minister for food, agriculture and cooperatives. 4) Mr Illahi Bukhsh Soomro, minister for industries. 5) Lt-Gen. Saeed

Minister for production and railways. 6) Raja M. Zafarul Haq, minister for information. 7) Lt-Gen. K.M. Arif, COS [chief of staff] to the president. 8) Dr M. Humayun Khan, acting secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. 9) Mr Shahid M. Amin, additional secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. 10) Mr M. Naseer Khan, director-general, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. 11) Mr Mohammad Saeed Khalid, director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the progress already made in the development of bilateral ties and agreed that conditions were ripe for their further promotion in all areas, based on the principles of equality and mutual benefit. They considered a number of proposals for expansion of cooperation in various fields such as agriculture, irrigation, trade, industry and technical know-how etc. During the visit, two agreements relating to trade and the setting up of a joint commission were signed. The first meeting of the joint commission will be held in Niamey at the invitation of the president of Niger. In order to achieve the goals of their cooperation the two leaders also agreed for more frequent consultations between the two countries at all levels.

In their review of international issues, the two presidents emphasised that a just and stable world order could only be based on the principles and objectives of the UN Charter, particularly with respect to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states and non-interference in the internal affairs of other states. The two sides reiterated their commitment to the settlement of disputes through peaceful means.

The two sides reiterated their adherence to the policy of nonalignment and emphasised the need to further strengthen the solidarity, mutual cooperation and unity of the non-aligned countries. They agreed to work closely together in the interest of the policy of non-alignment and for the success of the seventh summit meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in New Delhi and further resolved to strengthen the movement's role in its search for solutions to global economic and political problems.

Regarding the situation in southern Africa, the two heads of state denounced and condemned the intransigence as well as the dilatory and desperate manoeuvres of the racist minority regime of Pretoria tending to perpetrate its illegal occupation of the Namibian territory and to oppose, in contempt of the decisions of the U.N., the OAU and the non-aligned countries, the process which shall take the Namibian people to liberty and independence, under the leadership of SWAPO, its sole and legitimate representative. In this respect, they stressed upon the need of an early and complete implementation of the Resolution 435 of the Security Council.

They condemned the murderous incursions and the continued acts of sabotage by the racist minority regime of Pretoria against the frontline states, and reaffirmed their consistent support to SWAPO.

Regarding the situation in South Africa in particular, the two presidents reiterated their condemnation of the heinous policy of apartheid and

reaffirmed their determination to work for the elimination of racial discrimination from this part of the African continent. They renewed their firm support to the people of South Africa in the struggle for the recognition of their fundamental national rights.

Analysing the explosive situation prevailing in [words indistinct] the two presidents expressed their anxiety over the serious dangers which the peoples of this region and the world peace are facing because of the persistent Israeli occupation of the Arab territories.

They reaffirmed their conviction that withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Arab territories, including the holy city of al-Quds; recognition of the inalienable and imprescriptible rights of the Palestinian people including their right of self-determination, of return to their land as well as independence and national sovereignty; and the equal participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, the sole representative of the Palestinian people, in any process towards a just solution to the Middle East problem, are the necessary conditions for complete and durable peace in the region.

The president of Pakistan apprised the president of Niger of the situation in Afghanistan. Both leaders agreed that peace in Afghanistan could be restored only through a political solution based on the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the Islamic Conference and the declaration of the NAM, which call for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan, restoration of the independent and non-aligned status of Afghanistan, the right of the people of Afghanistan to have a social and political system of their own choosing and the creation of conditions to enable the Afghan refugees to return to their homes in safety and honour. They expressed the hope that the efforts being undertaken by the UN secretary-general would lead to a peaceful solution of the Afghanistan crisis.

The president of Niger expressed his appreciation of the efforts of the Government of Pakistan in looking after nearly three million Afghan refugees and agreed that there was an urgent need for an international assistance programme in order to alleviate the sufferings of the Afghan refugees.

Regarding the Iran-Iraq conflict, the two presidents deplored the continuation of this fratricidal war and urgently appealed to the two belligerents to stop the use of force and to find adequate peace means to resolve their differences. In this respect, they took note of the meritorious efforts by the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and specially by its Peace Committee in order to reach a solution to this conflict.

The president of Pakistan informed the president of Niger of the recent efforts made by Pakistan in accelerating the process of improving relations between Pakistan and India.

The president of Niger felicitated the president of Pakistan for the efforts undertaken by him to promote an atmosphere of confidence and mutual understanding in the region.

The president of Niger and the president of Pakistan reviewed the international economic situation and noted that the failure to find ways and means of changing the pattern of inequitable international economic relations was the cause of the ever-growing gap between the rich and poor countries, which is aggravating the situation of developing countries. The two leaders agreed that Niger and Pakistan should work closely to intensify the common efforts of the developing countries towards the realisation of a new international economic order.

They agreed that a common approach among the developing countries in the North-South dialogue would enhance their negotiating power vis-a-vis the developed countries in their quest for a better and more equitable economic order. They also reaffirmed the importance of cooperation amongst the developing countries for the achievement of positive results at the global negotiations when held. They called for renewed efforts by the Non-Aligned Movement to achieve the common economic goals of its member states.

At the end of his visit to Pakistan, President Seyni Kountche expressed his sincere thanks to President M. Ziaul Haq, the government and the people of Pakistan for the warm welcome accorded to him and to the delegation of Niger during their stay in Pakistan.

He also emphasised that the visit had contributed to strengthen cooperation between Niger and Pakistan and invited the president of Pakistan to pay a state visit to Niger.

President M. Ziaul Haq accepted the invitation with great pleasure. The dates of the visit will be determined subsequently through diplomatic channels.--APF

CLOSER TIES WITH KENYA RECOMMENDED

GF181330 Karachi DAWN in English 15 Mar 83 p 7

[Editorial: "Pakistan and Kenya"]

[Text] President Daniel Arap Moi's two-day visit to Islamabad should help Pakistan and Kenya to forge closer ties with each other than has hitherto been the case. The political and economic conditions necessary to create better links between the two countries have been there all along, and one hopes that President Moi's visit would help provide the much needed fillip to Pakistan-Kenya relations and that the extra effort necessary to promote better cooperation and understanding between them will now be forthcoming. The views of the leaders of the two countries on important world issues are identical. In the joint communique issued on Sunday, President Zia and President Moi called for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign troops from Afghanistan and the restoration of the independent and non-aligned status of that country. They also reaffirmed the principles which should form the basis of the political solution of the Afghan crisis, namely, the right of the Afghan people to have a social and political system of their choice and the creation of conditions which would enable the refugees to return to their homes in safety and with honour. The two leaders condemned the racist regime in South Africa for its continuing illegal occupation of Namibia. They displayed a common approach on other issues, too, such as apartheid in South Africa, the Iran-Iraq war and the Palestinian question. This convergence of views is partly explained by the fact that both Pakistan and Kenya are members of NAM [Nonaligned Movement] and belong to the Third World. They can be expected to have shared perceptions on issues of common concern.

Considerable scope exists in the field of economic and technical cooperation, which, it must be emphasized, has not been sufficiently explored so far. Kenya-Pakistan ties have been limited to bilateral trade. Although Kenya is Pakistan's major African trade partner, the volume of their imports and exports is not as substantial as could have been if efforts had been made to provide an institutional framework for promoting trade. Moreover, trade is heavily balanced against Pakistan. In 1980-81, Kenya's exports to Islamabad were worth Rs 335 million while its imports from this country were valued at only Rs 14 million. On previous occasions Kenya has displayed an interest in importing garments, machinery, shoes, electrical

items and hardware from Pakistan. It has also sought Pakistan's participation in joint ventures but nothing much has come out of these moves. The three agreements on trade, culture and economic, technological and scientific cooperation which were signed in Islamabad on Saturday will, it is to be hoped, give an impetus to commercial and technical exchanges. In his press conference, President Moi also stated that his country wanted to acquire know-how from Pakistan in tool manufacturing and agriculture-based industries. Measures should now be taken to identify the areas and projects where fruitful cooperation is possible. The first step should be to set up the joint commission provided for in the agreement on economic, technical and scientific cooperation. This will provide a permanent framework for promoting collaboration and will also facilitate measures aimed at developing closer ties. It is to be hoped that the two governments will work through diplomatic channels in the coming months to set up the joint commission so that its establishment is not postponed to some uncertain date in the future as has been the practice in the case of quite a few such bodies set up by Pakistan with other countries.

100 4000/427

RESPONSIBILITY FOR DIVISION OF COUNTRY REMAINS UNFIXED

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 8 Feb 83 p 3

["Nonpolitical Talk" by Abdul Qadar Hassan: "One More Hamoodur Rahman Commission"]

[Text] Now that the gossip has started and the time has come at last to refresh old memories of past griefs, Gen Anir Abdullah Khan Niazi should take us to a competent court of law so that Pakistanis might at least know what really did happen in connection with the fall of Dacca, know who was responsible for degrading the soldiers and destroying the national honor.

A short note received from India broke all bonds of restraint and General Niazi was asked why he handed over to the Indian general the revolver that has been preserved by the Indians in the museum of the military academy to their victory. In response to our question, Mr Niazi gave us a bill for 10 million rupees, saying that he had been disgraced. When this column was published, an endless line of letters started pouring in from prudent Pakistanis from all over the country with offers of tens of millions of rupees. Some gave details of their property, noting its current value and their ability to pay the said amount of money. Some wrote that their community was impatient to recover the revolver by selling all their property. But no sacrifice is considered too great for the sake of this country's honor. Yet before making any sacrifice, the nation has a right to know how this grief came about. In this connection, you may remember that a commission of inquiry was instituted under the chairmanship of the late Justice Hamoodur Rahman. This commission collected information from soldiers and politicians--including every individual involved in some way or the other with the fall of Dacca. The important document compiled by the commission, for whatever reason, did not reach the people. To this day, the document remains a mystery. Despite demands for the publication of this document, no action has been taken in response and now there is no hope of this document ever being published. Due to this secrecy, many myths and legends have gained popularity. Now doubt is being expressed about whether the report exists or whether it has been destroyed. We have been subjected to a rather strange treatment. Our country has been divided and we have not been told how all this came about. What I mean is that no authentic and comprehensive report has been made available to the people.

General Niazi has now expressed a willingness to provide an opportunity once again. Although many important and leading characters connected with the East Pakistan incident are no longer alive, there are still many people who although they may not be prisoners of their conscience are living within the confines of this world. If General Niazi could take us to a court of law we could ask the people who can shed light on this incident to appear before the court and tell us who did what. If we could get an opportunity to be of service to the nation in this very important matter we would consider it a great honor. The story is bound to be full of grief and extremely pathetic, but for the safety and security of the future of the nation such operations, though painful, are essential. Among the people whose names are uppermost in my mind are federal minister Rao Farman Ali [Khan], Secretary General for Defense Mr Rahim Khan, Lahore LDA [Labor Development Authority] General Ansari, Admiral (retd) Mr Shairif. Similarly, there are several other military officers who were present in East Pakistan at the time. One is Col Siddiq Salek, the author of an important book who is at present public relations officer to the president. If with a stroke of a pen this case gets started in the courts, then many other such cases, which are not in my mind right now, could come up one by one. Many dispassionate and courageous Pakistanis are impatient to give the nation an unbiased account of this tragic incident and its causes. In addition to current and former military personnel, many politicians who also appeared before the Hamoodur Rahman Commission and who are involved in the incident at the political level are also alive. One of the respected senior members of the commission, Mr Chief Justice (retd) Anwarul Haq Shaikh is also alive and well. He could also be requested to take the trouble to appear before the court. This way, another but a smaller Hamoodur Rahman report could be compiled and be presented to the Pakistanis through the newspapers.

One Pakistani connected with this incident claims that he is innocent and anyone else is to blame. But since the people are not in possession of all the facts, every person holding a high position in East or West Pakistan at that time and connected in any way with the incident stands convicted in the eyes of the nation. People claiming to be innocent, in case they are found to be guilty, should be declared innocent. It is wrong that they should bear the weight of this guilt during their lifetime and even after death be regarded as guilty in the eyes of the nation. We expect such people to confirm their innocence and prove their innocence in a court of law. We believe it would be a great relief to the nation to hear that the Pakistani nation will not forget this incident and will not forgive those responsible for it. It is possible that some may find the burden in the tribulations of everyday life or that power and money may provide refuge and protection. But in every time and age, someone or other will always try to revive this wound. Life is short and people involved in this incident should at the first opportunity appear before the people and get themselves cleared. It is not a good thing to leave a wound as a legacy in front of the coming generation and the people. The people of this foolish nation can be seen by the fact that whenever a minister arrives here, from "Angladesh" people say to one another that some talk about some kind of alliance or relationship with the new government, but that both the governments are keeping it a secret and that the matter is not finalized, the talks should

be kept secret. The gleam that appears in the eyes of Pakistanis while making such innocent remarks should not be allowed to die. This gleam reflects our national passion and in it lies the secret of our survival.

4315

CSJ: 4656/103

NATION'S CONSUMER TENDENCIES SEEN AS MAJOR CAUSE OF INFLATION

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 18 Feb 83 Magazine pp 12, 13

Article by Iftikhar Mahmud Gariban: "Bringing Unemployment and Inflation Under Control Is Essential for Sound Economy: Economic Progress Through Social Revolution"

[Excerpt] The problem of unemployment is such that no matter how much attention the authorities pay to it, it is not sufficient. Just think of a person who is unemployed despite being highly qualified and who has to fulfill his responsibilities not only towards his aged parents but his younger brothers and sisters also. Educated individuals aside, a majority of our society consists of illiterate people. They are badly entangled by the chains of unemployment. This problem is not limited to any particular area or group, rather it is acquiring a grave form in entire Pakistan. Growing inflation due to wrong policies has made this problem more severe.

Who is Responsible for Inflation?

While the consumers with resources, in order to defend themselves, put the responsibility of inflation on the administration and the business sector. But in fact they themselves are responsible for this. For example, if you go to any butcher shop you will normally witness that consumers with financial resources offer the butcher more money than the official rate to buy good and high quality meat, and on the butcher's urging, they do not hesitate to pay a whole goat. A salaried consumer on the other hand, returns empty-handed, since his circumstances do not allow him to pay more than the fixed rate. This is how the shopkeeper is encouraged to increase his prices.

Does Inflation Really Exist?

Every citizen today complains of high inflation. The prices of vegetables have doubled. Lentils are sold at the price of meat. Black lentils are unavailable. It is difficult to get milk. Lemons have become scarce.

But all these are mere talk. Just have a look around. There is a crowd of consumers at trading centers. There are rows of cars outside the shops. Showrooms are full of new and newer cars. There is abundance of luxury

items in the shopping centers. Garment shops are overcrowded. There is no shortage of people buying televisions, airconditioners, refrigerators and tape-recorders. Grand mansions are being built all over in the city. There is a huge crowd of women at jewelry shops. From a sweet-shop to a steak-shop, there is a rush of people.

The question is why the society has this contrast? If inflation exists, who buys the cars? Who is building new houses? Why is there a rush in the hotels? How are hundreds of thousands of rupees spent on clothes, luxury items and marriage ceremonies?

Regarding this an expert economist says that the present inflation in our country is artificial to a great extent, and its basic cause is excess of money. There is a heavy flow of remittances from overseas. Compared to this, the annual productivity is less. The remittances from overseas have not only enhanced the buying-power of one sector, they have also created a tendency among the people to buy more items.

The essential thing is that besides controlling excess of money in the country, a suitable way should also be thought of for utilizing the money from overseas, and consumer associations should be made active and effective. Undoubtedly, there is unreasonable increase in prices in our country; if the consumers display a strong reaction to it, this storm can be controlled.

Overspending and Inflation

There is inflation when the habit of overspending by the wealthy people reaches its extreme. Go to any high society function and the sight of jewelry, cosmetics and dresses will make you think of a fashion parade rather than a function.

Our problem is not only inflation but also wealth which is spreading in a particular circle. Disassociation with religion, too, is a problem since sentiments of benevolence, sacrifice and brotherhood are becoming extinct.

According to a survey, a large majority of the middle class spends 40 percent of its household and personal budget on recreation, good food, hotels and fashions. According to a survey done last year, the citizens of Lahore daily eat 120 thousand rupees worth of sweets, the citizens of Karachi, due to their habit of eating pan and tobacco, spend 880 thousand rupees on them monthly, the citizens of Peshawar consume snuff worth three hundred thousand rupees every week and the people of Quetta daily consume tea and tobacco worth three hundred thousand rupees.

According to a survey done by a higher education institution, the citizens of Rawalpindi, Islamabad, Multan, Lahore, Hyderabad, Ukkur, and Faisalabad spend more than three million rupees in restaurants, while the citizens of Abbotabad, Gujranwala, Sialkot and Mardan spend 9 hundred thousand rupees on this item. As to the question of fashion, Pakistani people collectively waste 2 billion rupees annually on fashion. 35 percent of every person's income is spent on clothes and luxuries.

These facts show us that the basic cause of inflation is our customs and traditions. The principle of economy is that the rise and fall of prices depends on demand. Probably, Pakistan is the sole country in the world where the people themselves are a source of inflation, and they directly or indirectly encourage profiteers, black-marketeers and hoarders. Experience bears witness to the fact that no matter how much increase there is in the price of a thing, people will never refrain from using it.

In order to bring inflation under control, not only will we have to forego our pleasures, we will also have to reduce our expenditures in and out of the house and accept the challenge of the time.

9779

CSO: 4656.115

POLITICAL RESTRICTIONS SEEN AS SOURCE OF FUN, FACILITIES FOR POLITICIANS

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 18 Feb 83 p 3

[Article by Abdul Qadir Hasan: "One Way Ticket"]

[Text] The leader of the defunct political party, NDP [National Democratic Party] and a famous historian, Khan Abdul Wali Khan, had not yet left for Karachi when newspapers began publishing news about his proposed visit. His program outlined for Karachi aimed at taking the maximum possible advantage from his five-day stay there. A schedule was outlined for him to meet with politicians and address meetings of workers. The workers of the NDP tormented by the People's Party decided to take out all the grudges they were harboring from the recent well-publicized MRd meeting on its second anniversary. Khan Sahib also had to be a witness in a case, which was the main cause of his visit to Karachi. The Karachi administration, therefore, decided to limit Khan Sahib's visit for this purpose only, and soon after he had given his witness in the court, the police presented him with a return ticket. They also offered him transportation to the airport and sent Khan Sahib back. Thus the NDP workers in Karachi waited for nothing, and the other programs also were cancelled.

Politicians have had fun during every era. Whether it is a political government's era or martial law, the facilities granted to the politicians remain the same, so much so that special arrangements are made for them even when they go to jail. Whether they are in the government or the opposition, their business is not hampered in any office. Rather, if they are in the opposition the governments pamper them somewhat more. Just look at the present administration. Even when it imprisons the politicians, it tries to provide them the facilities of their own homes. It wants them to write books and poems, engage in study, be interested in gardening and watch the Advisory Council's proceedings on television and be happy. From time to time, their provincial governor or some minister also visits them to inquire about their well-being. He advises the politicians to quit this futile politics and join them, and accept anything they prefer from being a member of the Advisory Council to a minister. Just look at brotherly treatment given by the administration to the political leaders not imprisoned or arrested. First, the administration tries to see that they do not bother to travel, since this involves bodily fatigue along with the

financial burden. Despite this, if any leader insists, the administration does not stop him. Nevertheless, it does make arrangements for his one way free ticket. As soon as a leader goes to a city and makes attempts at leadership, the administration buys his return ticket and sends him off with full guard of honor [i.e., escorted by security personnel].

A few days ago a leader who is also my friend, wanted to go to Peshawar for some important task, but as he had been out of circulation for some time, he was short of funds. He wrote to an individual of his party in Peshawar to make arrangements for his return as he was coming there, so arrangements were made for political activities in his honor upon his arrival at Peshawar. First he took care of the business for which he had gone to Peshawar. After that, through a newspaper statement and speech, he warned that the proud people of the Frontier Province would not tolerate the postponement of the elections for a longer period. The Peshawar administration, smelling danger, sent him back at its own expense and thus safeguarded the peace and security of the province. There is a famous joke that a Sikh bought a return railway ticket, and throughout his journey joked about how he had fooled the railway, since he was not going to return. Now the leaders too buy one-way tickets and joke on their way that the government will return them at its own expense. Recently a leader really fooled the administration. Mr Jatoi [PPP leader] went to Lahore. Upon his arrival, the provincial government, through my friend Mian Ansan-ul Haq, who was also Mr Jatoi's host, presented a welcome address in his honor saying that he was their honorable guest and they were delighted to have him in Punjab; nevertheless, he should be a little bit cautious since politics was restricted in Punjab also. Rashid Ahmad Siaddiqi [an author] has written somewhere that being a guest is more difficult than being a host. Jatoi Sahib, therefore, took extra precautions. He met with several leaders. He called an informal tea-party type meeting of the MRD, used strong words in a press conference and thus involved the administration. He was therefore taken in an official car to the Lat airport and offered a ticket for Karachi. When Jatoi Sahib saw the ticket, it was for the third, i.e., the economy class. He returned the ticket saying that he had never travelled in the third class. "I want a first class ticket, otherwise I will just stay here," [he said]. Trying to get rid of the trouble that had befallen them, the officials hastened to get a first class ticket for him and paid the (high) price to make Jatoi Sahib leave Punjab. The leaders who travel in third class on government expense, please be informed.

9779

CSO: 4656/113

PNP LEADER CRITICIZED FOR DENIAL OF IDEOLOGY OF PAKISTAN

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 14 Feb 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Denying the Very Ideology of Pakistan"]

[Text] The leader of the defunct Pakistan National Party (PNP), Mr Ghaus Bakhsh Bizenjo, has declared the ideology of Pakistan to be basically a wrong term which (according to him) was first used by Jamaat-e Islami during Yakya Khan's era, and was never heard of before. He made this statement in a special military court as a defense witness in a case against Jam Saqi. We can leave aside this case and its witness (our objective is not at all to express any opinion on this). As far as Mr Bizenjo is concerned, he has expressed this opinion several times before also and it does not seem incorrect to say that his statement is a part of his political ideology.

The very ideology with which Mr Bizenjo is associated is based on atheism, rather on deviation, whereas the foundation as well as the soul of the ideology of Pakistan is the enforcement of Islam. That is why refuting it [Islamic ideology] is a part, rather a requirement of his politics. The strange thing is that in the country whose formal and constitutional religion is Islam, elements like Mr Bizenjo are bold enough to openly deny or renounce the ideology of Pakistan based on Islam, while the officials of the country and the government do not even question him.

While refuting the ideology of Pakistan and declaring its definition to be basically wrong, Mr Bizenjo and those sharing his viewpoint totally ignore the historic and epoch-making struggle waged by the Muslims of the subcontinent for the establishment of Pakistan through the awakening of the concept of a Muslim nationality. The fundamental and straightforward question, here is: after all, how did Pakistan's establishment come into being without an ideology in the face of the united opposition of a Hindu majority in the subcontinent and the foreign, English rulers? How was a country which declared Islam as its state religion founded? Can anyone even conceive the existence of an ideological country like Pakistan without any basic ideology and philosophy as part of its faith? It is a different matter that even at that time Mr Bizenjo had no faith in the concept that as a nation, the Muslims are separate from the Hindus. Instead, his political belief was that the Hindus and the Muslims are one nation only. Even today he believes that Pakistan is comprised of the federation of four nationalities (Baluchis, Sindis, Punjabis and Pathans). Obviously therefore, can a person with such a viewpoint accept the Islamic ideology of Pakistan to be basically a correct term?

9779

CSO: 4656/113

COLOMBO UNIVERSITY DISTURBANCES REPORTED

No Loans for Boycotting Students

BK181554 Colombo SUN in English 1 Mar 83 p 1

[Article by Manchari Pillai]

[Text] University students who boycott lectures will not get bank loans or scholarships, the University (Grants) Commission has decided.

This decision, UGC Chairman Stanley Kalpage said, had been taken in view of the recent spate of strikes by students of the Colombo University against the fee-levying law degree courses for external students and the admission of students from the Kotelawala Defence Academy to the university without the recognised qualifications.

In support of this cause students belonging to the Inter-University Students Federation boycotted lectures and staged protest strikes, in their universities.

At the Colombo University students of the law, science and arts faculties have been on protest strike since February 23.

Dr. Kalpage said the bank loans to students boycotting lectures at the Colombo University would be withdrawn with immediate effect and all scholarships they were entitled to, including the Mahapola scholarship would be withheld.

Dr. Kalpage said he would discuss this matter with the trustees of the Mahapola Scholarship Fund to make available the scholarships to other deserving students.

Dr. Kalpage said he would write to the Education Ministry to recall the 45 teachers, who were following the education department course at the Colombo University.

These teachers had been given duty leave by the Education Ministry to attend these lectures but they were boycotting lectures, he claimed.

Policemen Sent to University

BK181608 Colombo SUN in English 3 Mar 83 pp 1, 11

[Article by Aruna Kulatunga]

[Text] A contingent of 150 policemen moved in to the Colombo University last morning after the college house was declared out of bounds to students by Vice Chancellor Stanley Wijesundera.

The police who moved in at the request of the vice chancellor stationed a riot squad inside the college house and placed guards around the administrative area. However they did not go in to the actual campus area across Thurstan Road.

This move by the police and the university authorities followed several incidents on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, police had to further strengthen their units by noon yesterday when tension built up following minor clashes between two groups of students.

These clashes followed the distribution of a pamphlet by an independent group of students. These students wanted one of the issues under discussion dropped. That was the Kotelawala Defence Academy [K.D.A.] cadets being allowed to pursue courses in the universities.

One of the two main demands of the students earlier was to cancel the university facilities given to these cadets and the other to abolish the fee-levying external LLB courses.

The pamphlet pointed out that when the K.D.A. cadets were first admitted to the university, there were no protests from any faction.

Around noon yesterday, the undergrads assembled near the Thurstan Road entrance and held an impromptu meeting. During the course of this meeting, several clashes developed between the opposing factions but they were nipped in the bud.

The police took a back seat, allowing the undergraduates to settle their issues.

The main issue that led to the recent spate of protests, the fee-levying course for external students, is now under review by the university senate, sources said yesterday.

Students Take Case to Judiciary

BK181616 Colombo SUN in English 10 Mar 83 p 1

[Article by Lalith Allahakoon]

[Excerpt] The dispute between the university authorities and the students has now come up before the judiciary.

The Sri Lanka Sishya Sammelanaya (Sri Lanka Students Federation) yesterday filed a petition in the court of appeal challenging the decision taken by the university authorities to continue with the instruction courses that commenced in the Colombo University in December 1982 for persons sitting externally, the Bachelor of Laws examination of the University of Colombo and by refusing to hold similar courses of instruction for the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees.

The students also challenged the decision taken by the university authorities to provide facilities within the University of Colombo to the students of the Kotelawala Defence Academy.

The students sought a writ of prohibition and writ of mandamus on the respondents.

The respondent in this case is the vice chancellor of the Colombo University, Professor Stanley Wijesundara.

The petition was filed by attorney at law D. S. Rupasinghe and will be taken up for hearing before the court of appeal comprising Justice D. Athukorale, (president) and Justice Tudor De Alwis.

CSO: 4600/431

END

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

April 7, 1983
(B)